SUPERMAN
No.85
JUNE...TEN CENTS
A SUPERMAN DC PUBLICATION
ACTION COMICS
... MASSAGE IS SO STIMULATING FOR THE SCALP!

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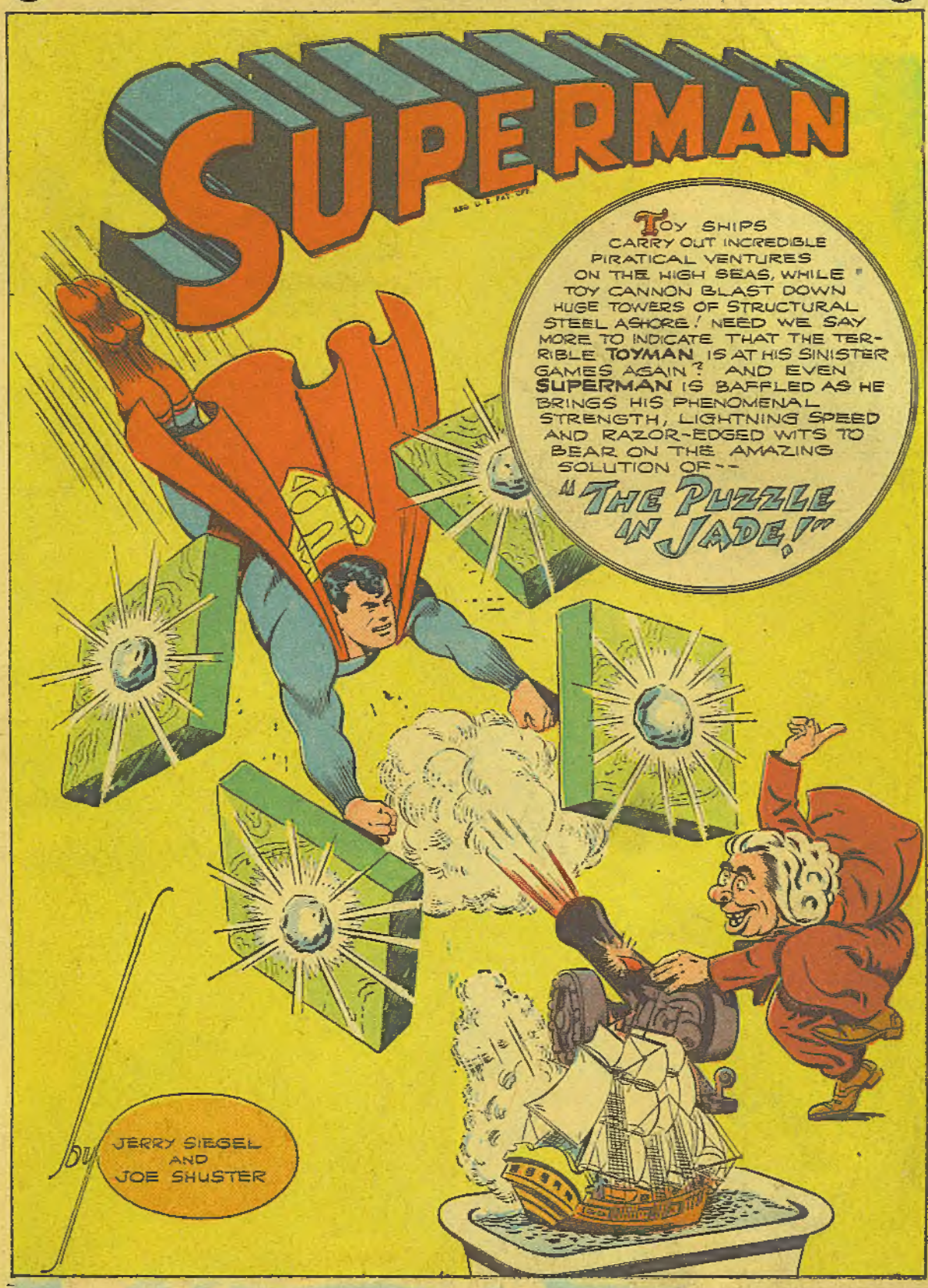
WORLD'S FINEST COMICS

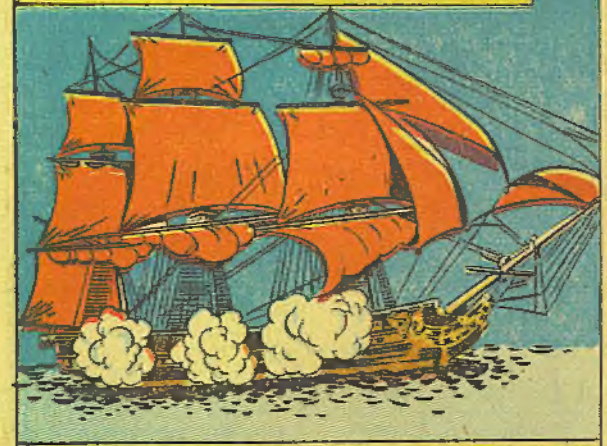
People Like to Laugh!

—AND WE HELP 'EM

THESE MEMBERS OF YOUNG AMERICA KNOW THE BEST PLACE TO BUY THEIR COMICS!

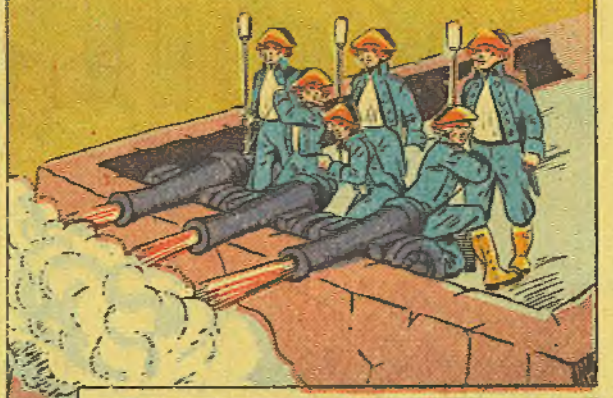

SUPERMAN
AND U.S. PAT. OFF.
TOY SHIPS CARRY OUT INCREDIBLE PIRATICAL VENTURES ON THE HIGH SEAS, WHILE TOY CANNON BLAST DOWN HUGE TOWERS OF STRUCTURAL STEEL ASHORE! NEED WE SAY MORE TO INDICATE THAT THE TERRIBLE TOYMAN IS AT HIS SINISTER GAMES AGAIN? AND EVEN SUPERMAN IS BAFFLED AS HE BRINGS HIS PHENOMENAL STRENGTH, LIGHTNING SPEED AND RAZOR-EDGED WITS TO BEAR ON THE AMAZING SOLUTION OF--
"THE PUZZLE IN JADE!"
By JERRY SIEGEL AND JOE SHUSTER

THE TIME OF OUR STORY IS **NOW**...



BUT ISN'T THIS AN EIGHTEENTH CENTURY MAN-O'-WAR, REELING WITH THE RECOIL OF A BLACK-POWDER BROADSIDE ?

AND SURELY THESE OLD-FASHIONED CANNON AND THEIR QUAINTLY UNIFORMED CREWS WOULD BE LAUGHED OFF A MODERN BATTLEFIELD !



BUT THERE'S AN EXPLANATION FOR EVERYTHING— AND IN THIS CASE IT IS PROVIDED BY THAT WHIMSICALLY SINISTER RUGGED INDIVIDUALIST OF CRIME — THE TERRIBLE **TOYMAN** !

PERFECT — AS ALL MY BEAUTIFUL TOYS ARE PERFECT ! WITH THEM I SHALL WREST RICHES FROM THE WORLD !

AND IF **SUPERMAN** DARES TO INTERFERE AGAIN, HE WILL LEARN THAT **TOYMAN** CAN DEVISE GAMES TOO DIFFICULT EVEN FOR HIM TO PLAY !

NEXT DAY IN THE NEWSROOM OF THE METROPOLIS **DAILY PLANET**...

READY, LOIS ? WE'VE HIRED A SPECIAL LAUNCH TO TAKE YOU TO MEET THE FREIGHTER BRINGING BACK THE SURVIVING MILLIONNAIRES FROM THAT SHIPWRECKED YACHT !

I'M ON MY WAY, CHIEF !

TOO BAD YOU'RE STUCK HERE WITH THE STORY OF **TOYMAN'S** ESCAPE FROM PRISON, CLARK ! THIS RESCUE YARN OUGHT TO BE EXCITING !

DON'T CRY OVER ME ! **TOYMAN** USUALLY MANAGES TO PROVIDE SOME EXCITEMENT BEFORE HE'S FINISHED, TOO !

AND IF THE STORY'S TOO BIG FOR YOU TO HANDLE, NO DOUBT YOUR PAL **SUPERMAN** WILL SHOW UP TO SAVE YOUR JOURNALISTIC REPUTATION !

YOU'RE JUST JEALOUS !

In a thrilling sea rescue, a coastal freighter has picked up passengers of the storm-crippled yacht of Simon Starrett, multi-millionaire, and is steaming toward **METROPOLIS . . .**

But the **PLANET** intends to scoop rival papers by meeting and interviewing the rescued socialites before they reach land!

There's smoke on the horizon, right about where we expected to meet the freighter!

Take the wheel, Maguire, while I have a look!

It's her, all right, but--great Scott! Take these glasses, Miss Lane, and tell me if you see what I see!

What is it?

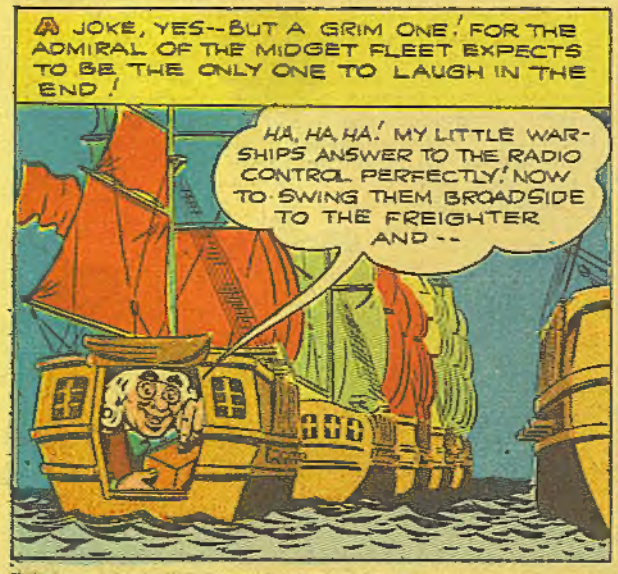
A fleet of tiny sailing ships surrounding the freighter! Where could they have come from?

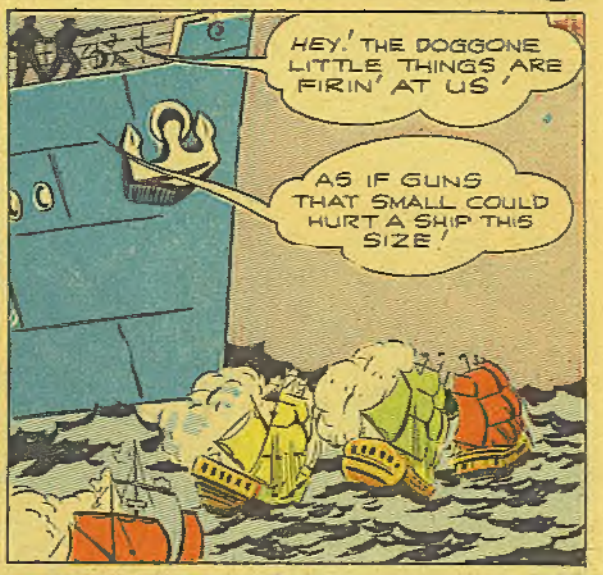
I don't know--but I do know I'd better use the ship-to-shore phone right away and let the **PLANET** in on it!

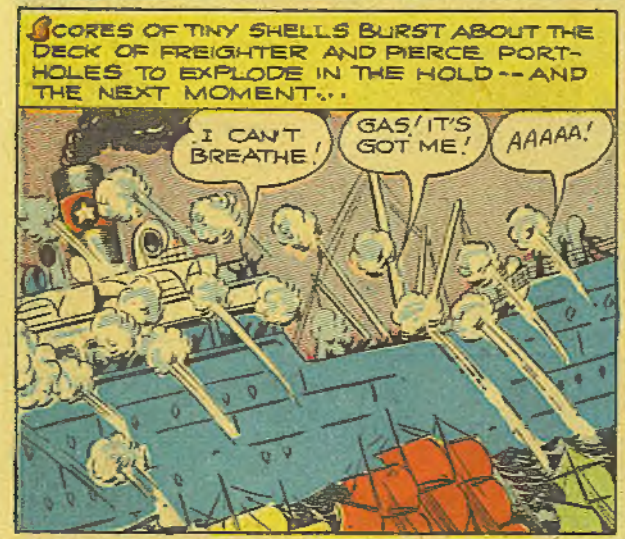
Aboard the freighter, seamen and passengers crowd the rail to view the unprecedented spectacle...

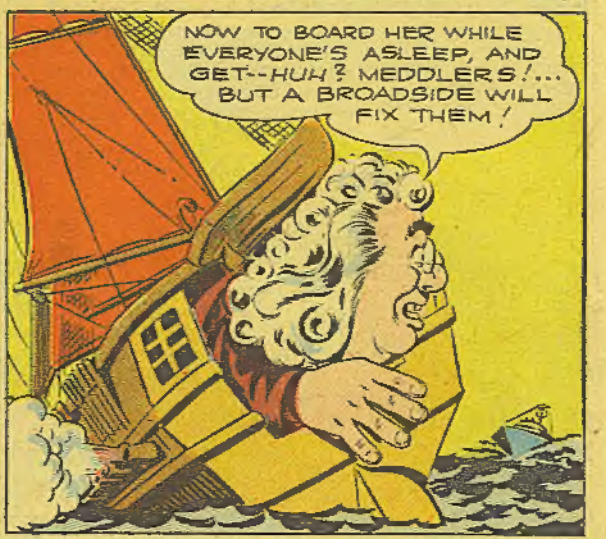
Could somebody be playing a joke on us, Captain?

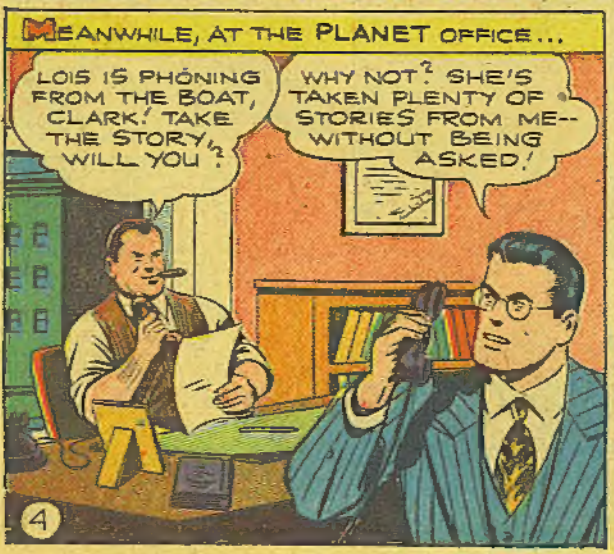
A joke? Mebbe, Mr Starrett--But somebody went to a lot o' trouble to get them little craft out here, twenty mile offshore!


A JOKE, YES--BUT A GRIM ONE! FOR THE ADMIRAL OF THE MIDGET FLEET EXPECTS TO BE THE ONLY ONE TO LAUGH IN THE END!
HA, HA, HA! MY LITTLE WAR-SHIPS ANSWER TO THE RADIO CONTROL PERFECTLY! NOW TO SWING THEM BROADSIDE TO THE FREIGHTER AND --


HEY! THE DOGGONE LITTLE THINGS ARE FIRIN' AT US!
AS IF GUNS THAT SMALL COULD HURT A SHIP THIS SIZE!


SCORES OF TINY SHELLS BURST ABOUT THE DECK OF FREIGHTER AND PIERCE PORT-HOLES TO EXPLODE IN THE HOLD--AND THE NEXT MOMENT...
I CAN'T BREATHE!
GAS! IT'S GOT ME!
AAAAA!


NOW TO BOARD HER WHILE EVERYONE'S ASLEEP, AND GET--HUH? MEDDLERS!... BUT A BROADSIDE WILL FIX THEM!


MEANWHILE, AT THE PLANET OFFICE...
LOIS IS PHONING FROM THE BOAT, CLARK! TAKE THE STORY, WILL YOU?
WHY NOT? SHE'S TAKEN PLENTY OF STORIES FROM ME--WITHOUT BEING ASKED!
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CLARK! TOY SAILING SHIPS--ATTACKING FREIGHTER AND LAUNCH! THEY'RE SHOOTING GAS SHELLS!...I--I CAN'T--
OH-H-H...
ARE YOU KIDDING?
...HELLO?...
HELLO!...
LOIS!...

("--TOY SHIPS COMMITTING PIRACY! ONLY ONE MAN WOULD PLAN A STUNT LIKE THAT!... I'VE GOT TO GET OUT OF HERE!--")

("--TOYMAN, YOUR VACATION FROM PRISON IS ALMOST OVER-- UNLESS SUPERMAN HAS LOST HIS OLD TOUCH SINCE HE LAST PUT YOU THERE!--")

OUT OVER THE OCEAN LEAPS THE MAN OF TOMORROW, HIS TELESCOPIC EYES SEARCHING THE VAST PLAIN OF WATER UNTIL THEY SIGHT--

("--THERE ARE THE FREIGHTER AND THE LAUNCH--AND THE TOY WAR-SHIPS! AND SOMEONE IS MOVING ON THE DECK OF THE FREIGHTER!--")

YES, SOMEONE IS MOVING, SWIFTLY AND PURPOSEFULLY!

("--NO DOUBT THERE ARE JEWELS AND CASH IN THE CABINS OF THESE RICH FOOLS--BUT I'VE WASTED TOO MUCH TIME ALREADY, PLANTING THAT BOMB IN THE HOLD!...AH--HERE'S STARRETT!--")

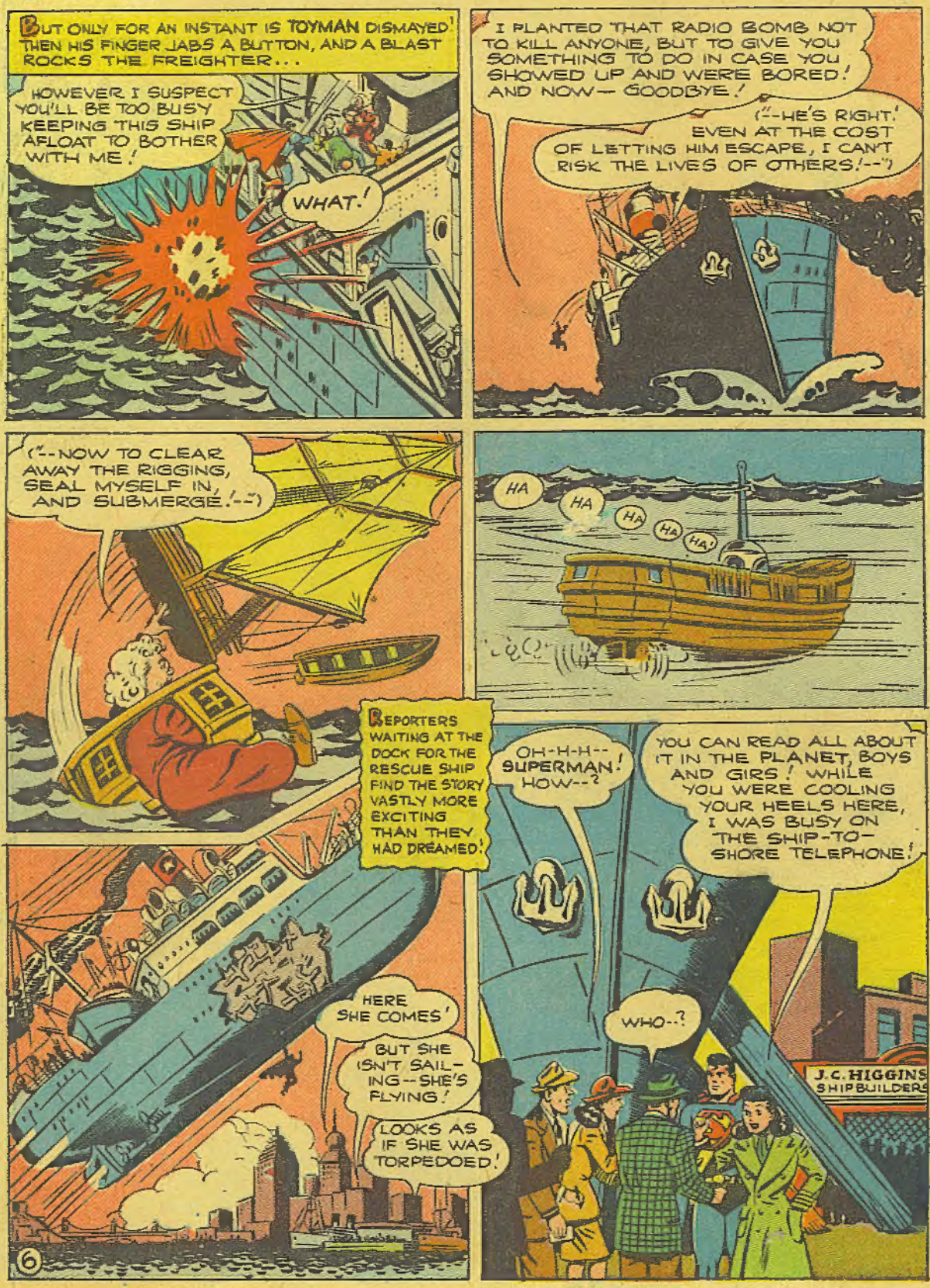
("--HOW THOUGHTFUL OF HIM TO WEAR THE VERY THING I'M AFTER-- THESE JADE CUFFLINKS!--")

TWO CURIOUSLY CARVED SQUARES OF JADE, SET WITH MEDIUM-SIZED DIAMONDS! WHAT IS THERE ABOUT THESE TRINKETS THAT MAKES TOYMAN PREFER THEM TO JEWELS OF FAR GREATER VALUE?

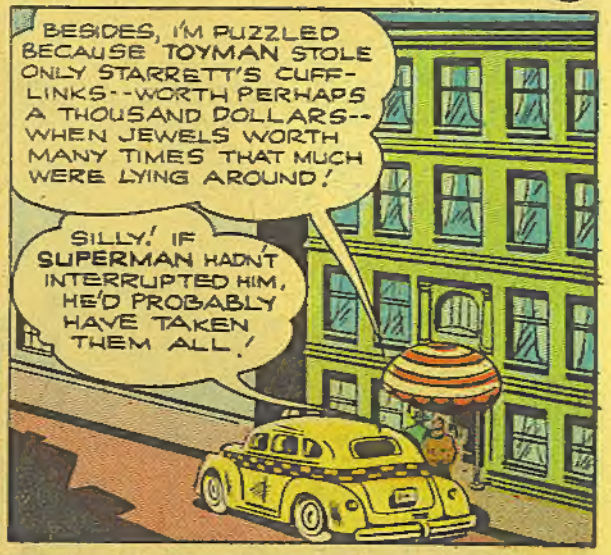
SUDDENLY...

THE TERRIBLE TOYMAN, I PRESUME! OR IS IT CAPTAIN KIDD?

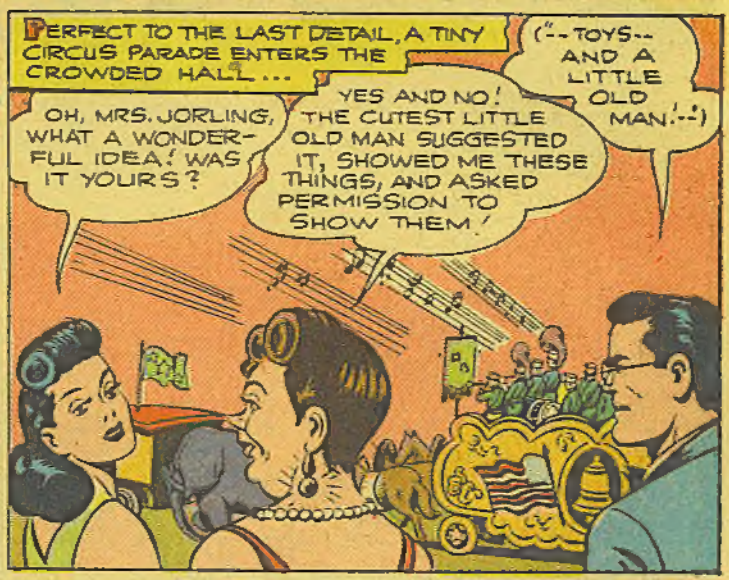
SUPERMAN!

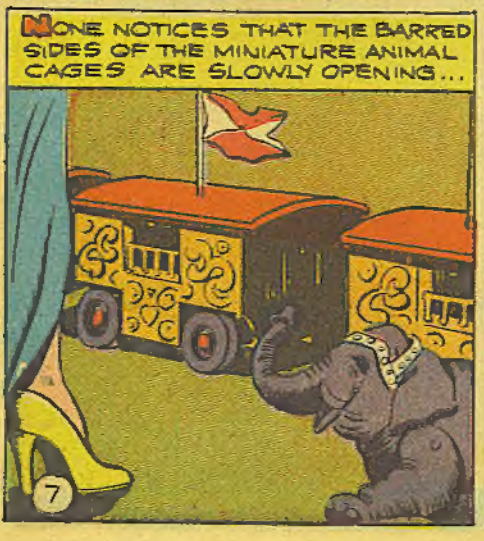

BUT ONLY FOR AN INSTANT IS TOYMAN DISMAYED! THEN HIS FINGER JABS A BUTTON, AND A BLAST ROCKS THE FREIGHTER...
HOWEVER I SUSPECT YOU'LL BE TOO BUSY KEEPING THIS SHIP AFLOAT TO BOTHER WITH ME!
WHAT!
I PLANTED THAT RADIO BOMB NOT TO KILL ANYONE, BUT TO GIVE YOU SOMETHING TO DO IN CASE YOU SHOWED UP AND WERE BORED! AND NOW— GOODBYE!
("--HE'S RIGHT! EVEN AT THE COST OF LETTING HIM ESCAPE, I CAN'T RISK THE LIVES OF OTHERS!--")
("--NOW TO CLEAR AWAY THE RIGGING, SEAL MYSELF IN, AND SUBMERGE!--")
HA
HA
HA
HA
HA!
REPORTERS WAITING AT THE DOCK FOR THE RESCUE SHIP FIND THE STORY VASTLY MORE EXCITING THAN THEY HAD DREAMED!
OH-H-H-- SUPERMAN! HOW--?
YOU CAN READ ALL ABOUT IT IN THE PLANET, BOYS AND GIRS! WHILE YOU WERE COOLING YOUR HEELS HERE, I WAS BUSY ON THE SHIP-TO-SHORE TELEPHONE!
HERE SHE COMES!
BUT SHE ISN'T SAILING--SHE'S FLYING!
LOOKS AS IF SHE WAS TORPEDOED!
WHO--?
J.C. HIGGINS SHIPBUILDERS
6

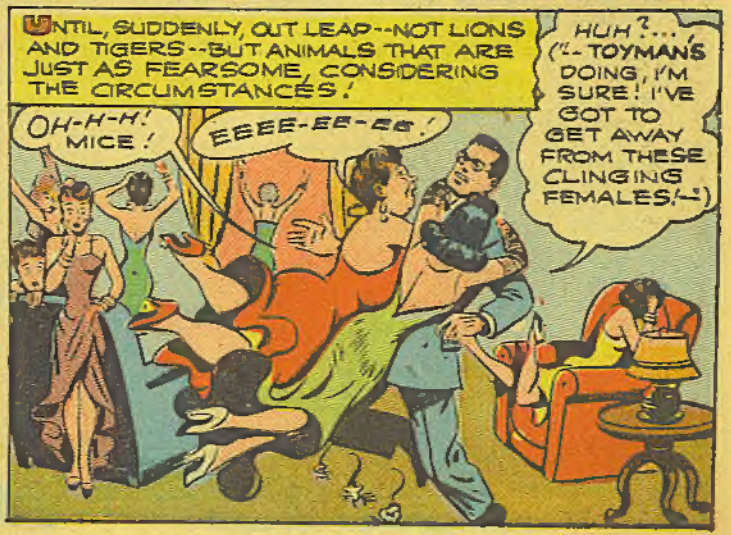
THAT EVENING...
WHY SO GLUM, CLARK? BECAUSE I NOT ONLY GOT THE RESCUE STORY, BUT SCOOPED YOU ON YOUR OWN TOYMAN ASSIGNMENT?
IF I'M GLUM, IT'S BECAUSE THE CHIEF SENT ME TO COVER THIS WOMEN'S CHARITY BAZAAR WITH YOU! I'LL BE THE ONLY MAN THERE!


BESIDES, I'M PUZZLED BECAUSE TOYMAN STOLE ONLY STARRETT'S CUFF-LINKS--WORTH PERHAPS A THOUSAND DOLLARS--WHEN JEWELS WORTH MANY TIMES THAT MUCH WERE LYING AROUND!
SILLY! IF SUPERMAN HADN'T INTERRUPTED HIM, HE'D PROBABLY HAVE TAKEN THEM ALL!

IN THE BALLROOM OF THE JARVIS JORLING MANSION...
OH, HOW CUTE!
HOW DROLL!
THIS MUST BE SOMETHING SPECIAL! LETS GO SEE!


PERFECT TO THE LAST DETAIL, A TINY CIRCUS PARADE ENTERS THE CROWDED HALL...
OH, MRS. JORLING, WHAT A WONDERFUL IDEA! WAS IT YOURS?
YES AND NO! THE CUTEST LITTLE OLD MAN SUGGESTED IT, SHOWED ME THESE THINGS, AND ASKED PERMISSION TO SHOW THEM!
("--TOYS--AND A LITTLE OLD MAN!--")


NONE NOTICES THAT THE BARRED SIDES OF THE MINIATURE ANIMAL CAGES ARE SLOWLY OPENING...
7


UNTIL, SUDDENLY, OUT LEAP--NOT LIONS AND TIGERS--BUT ANIMALS THAT ARE JUST AS FEARSOME, CONSIDERING THE CIRCUMSTANCES!
OH-H-H! MICE!
EEEE-EE-EE!
HUH?... ("--TOYMAN'S DOING, I'M SURE! I'VE GOT TO GET AWAY FROM THESE CLINGING FEMALES!--")

JUST OUTSIDE THE BALLROOM...

("--HA, HA, HA! TIME I PUT OUT THE LIGHTS AND GOT TO WORK! I CAN SPOT MRS. JORLING IN THE DARK BY THE LUMINOUS FLOWERS SHE'S WEARING!--")

DARKNESS BLANKETS THE SCENE OF SEMI-COMIC TERROR--AND AS CLARK ELUDES THE ARMS OF FRIGHTENED WOMEN, A SHADOWY FIGURE DARTS THROUGH THE CROWD!

("--AH--THERE SHE IS!--")

("--TIME FOR SUPERMAN TO PROVE HE ISN'T AFRAID OF MICE--OR RATS!--")

THE NEXT MOMENT...

HELP! SOMEONE'S STOLEN MY RING!

SO, TOYMAN--WE MEET AGAIN!

SUPERMAN! YOU'VE BEEN FOLLOWING ME!

BUT THE WILY CRIMINAL HAS ANOTHER TRICK UP HIS SLEEVE! A JET OF FLAME LEAPS FROM A METAL TUBE IN HIS HAND AND TOUCHES A CURTAIN...

BUT YOU'LL STOP FOLLOWING NOW--AT LEAST, UNTIL YOU'VE TAKEN CARE OF THE FIRE HAZARD!

BY MAKING TROUBLE FOR ME, YOU'RE ONLY MAKING MORE TROUBLE FOR YOURSELF!

FIRE SWEEPS THROUGH THE FLIMSY DECORATIONS OF THE BALLROOM--AND SUPERMAN IS POWERLESS TO PREVENT TOYMAN'S ESCAPE A SECOND TIME!

WE'LL ALL BE BURNED TO DEATH!

BE QUIET! YOU'LL ALL BE TRAMPLED TO DEATH IF YOU GET PANICKY! SUPERMAN WILL TAKE CARE OF THE FIRE!

THANKS, MISS LANE! YOU KEEP ORDER AND I'LL DO THE REST!

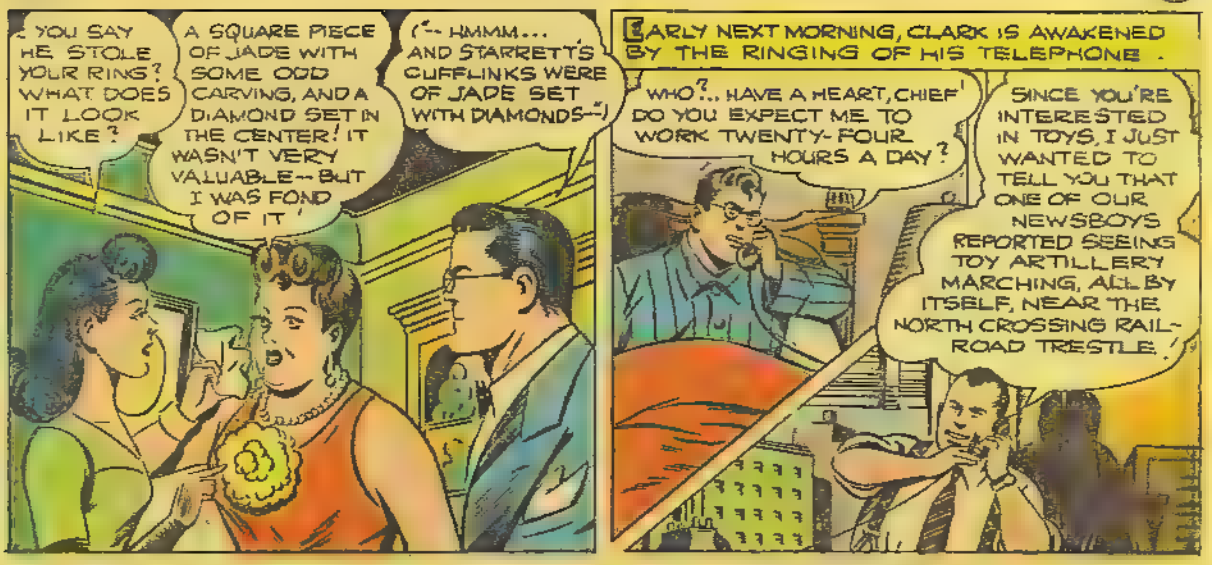
LEAPING WITH METEORIC SPEED, THE MAN OF STEEL RIPS DOWN FLAMING DRAPERIES AND SMOTHERS THEM IN HIS ARMS!

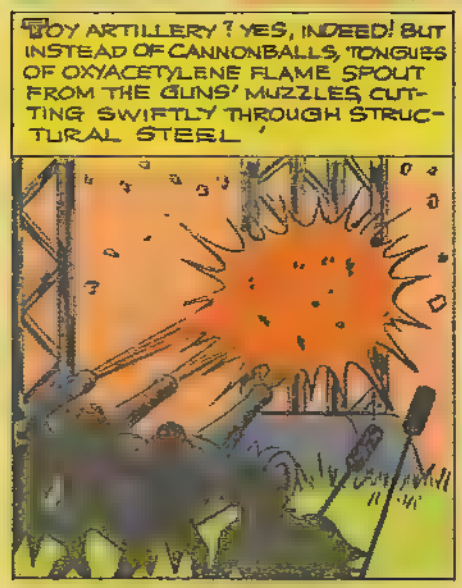
THERE YOU ARE, LADIES! YOU'VE FRIGHTENED THE MICE AWAY, AND THE FIRE IS OUT.--SO YOU CAN RELAX!

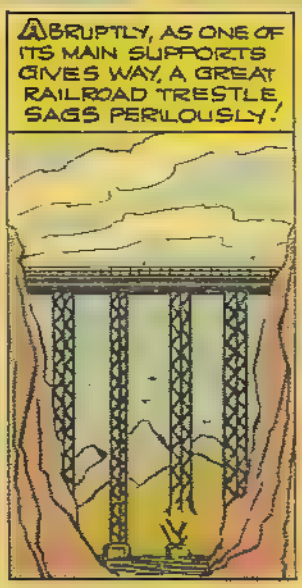
AND AS THE LIGHTS GO UP...

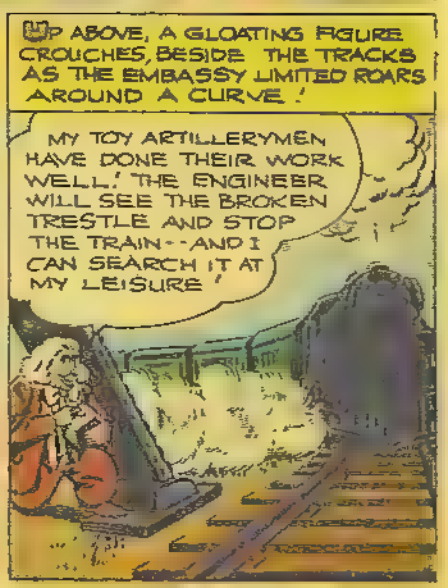
CLARK KENT--DON'T TELL ME THAT YOU'RE AFRAID OF MICE, TOO!

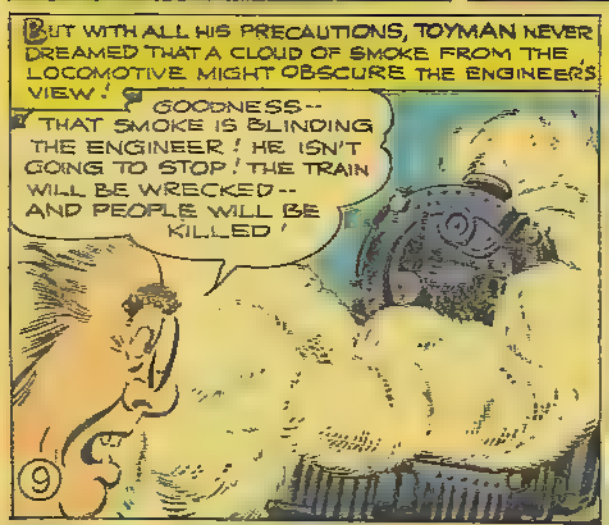
NO, LOIS--ONLY OF WOMEN WHO ARE AFRAID OF MICE!

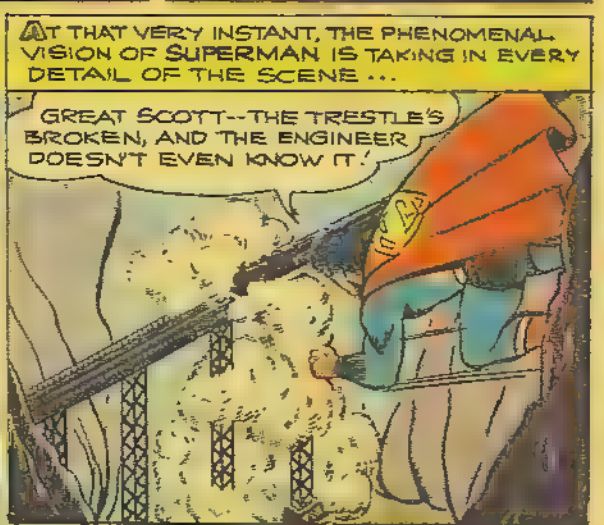

YOU SAY HE STOLE YOUR RING? WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE?
A SQUARE PIECE OF JADE WITH SOME ODD CARVING, AND A DIAMOND SET IN THE CENTER! IT WASN'T VERY VALUABLE--BUT I WAS FOND OF IT!
(--HMMM... AND STARRETT'S CUFFLINKS WERE OF JADE SET WITH DIAMONDS--)
EARLY NEXT MORNING, CLARK IS AWAKENED BY THE RINGING OF HIS TELEPHONE.
WHO?.. HAVE A HEART, CHIEF! DO YOU EXPECT ME TO WORK TWENTY-FOUR HOURS A DAY?
SINCE YOU'RE INTERESTED IN TOYS, I JUST WANTED TO TELL YOU THAT ONE OF OUR NEWSBOYS REPORTED SEEING TOY ARTILLERY MARCHING, ALL BY ITSELF, NEAR THE NORTH CROSSING RAILROAD TRESTLE!


TOY ARTILLERY? YES, INDEED! BUT INSTEAD OF CANNONBALLS, TONGUES OF OXYACETYLENE FLAME SPOUT FROM THE GUNS' MUZZLES, CUTTING SWIFTLY THROUGH STRUCTURAL STEEL!


ABRUPTLY, AS ONE OF ITS MAIN SUPPORTS GIVES WAY, A GREAT RAILROAD TRESTLE SAGS PERILOUSLY!


UP ABOVE, A GLOATING FIGURE CROUCHES, BESIDE THE TRACKS AS THE EMBASSY LIMITED ROARS AROUND A CURVE!
MY TOY ARTILLERYMEN HAVE DONE THEIR WORK WELL! THE ENGINEER WILL SEE THE BROKEN TRESTLE AND STOP THE TRAIN--AND I CAN SEARCH IT AT MY LEISURE!


BUT WITH ALL HIS PRECAUTIONS, TOYMAN NEVER DREAMED THAT A CLOUD OF SMOKE FROM THE LOCOMOTIVE MIGHT OBSCURE THE ENGINEER'S VIEW!
GOODNESS--THAT SMOKE IS BLINDING THE ENGINEER! HE ISN'T GOING TO STOP! THE TRAIN WILL BE WRECKED--AND PEOPLE WILL BE KILLED!
9


AT THAT VERY INSTANT, THE PHENOMENAL VISION OF SUPERMAN IS TAKING IN EVERY DETAIL OF THE SCENE...
GREAT SCOTT--THE TRESTLE'S BROKEN, AND THE ENGINEER DOESN'T EVEN KNOW IT!

SWOOPING LIKE A GIANT EAGLE, SUPERMAN GRASPS THE SEVERED SUPPORTING PILLAR JUST AS THE TRAIN ENTERS UPON THE TOTTERING BRIDGE!

THIS TIME TOYMAN HAS GONE TOO FAR! I WON'T EAT OR REST TILL I'VE PUT HIM WHERE HE CAN'T ENDANGER HUMAN LIFE WITH HIS PLAYTHINGS!

AND WITH THE MAN OF STEEL TAKING THE PLACE OF THE ORIGINAL STRUCTURAL STEEL, ENGINE AND COACHES THUNDER SAFELY ACROSS THE CHASM!

THEY DON'T EVEN KNOW UP THERE HOW CLOSE THEY WERE TO DEATH!

RACING WITH THE SPEED OF A BULLET, HE OVERTAKES THE SPEEDING LIMITED...

I HAVEN'T A TICKET--BUT I DON'T THINK THE CONDUCTOR WILL PUT ME OFF TILL I'VE TAKEN A QUICK LOOK AROUND!

SEARCHING THE CARS WITH X-RAY EYES, HE FINDS WHAT HE IS SEEKING IN A WASHROOM!

SUPERMAN!

HELP YOURSELF, SUPERMAN! I BOUGHT IT AT--LET ME SEE--

JUST WHAT I'M LOOKING FOR AND WHAT TOYMAN WAS AFTER! DO YOU MIND LENDING ME THIS JADE WATCH CHARM AND TELLING ME WHERE YOU GOT IT?

IWC

MINUTES LATER, PASSING A SMALL JEWELER'S SHOP ON HER WAY TO WORK, LOIS LANE MAKES A DISCOVERY...

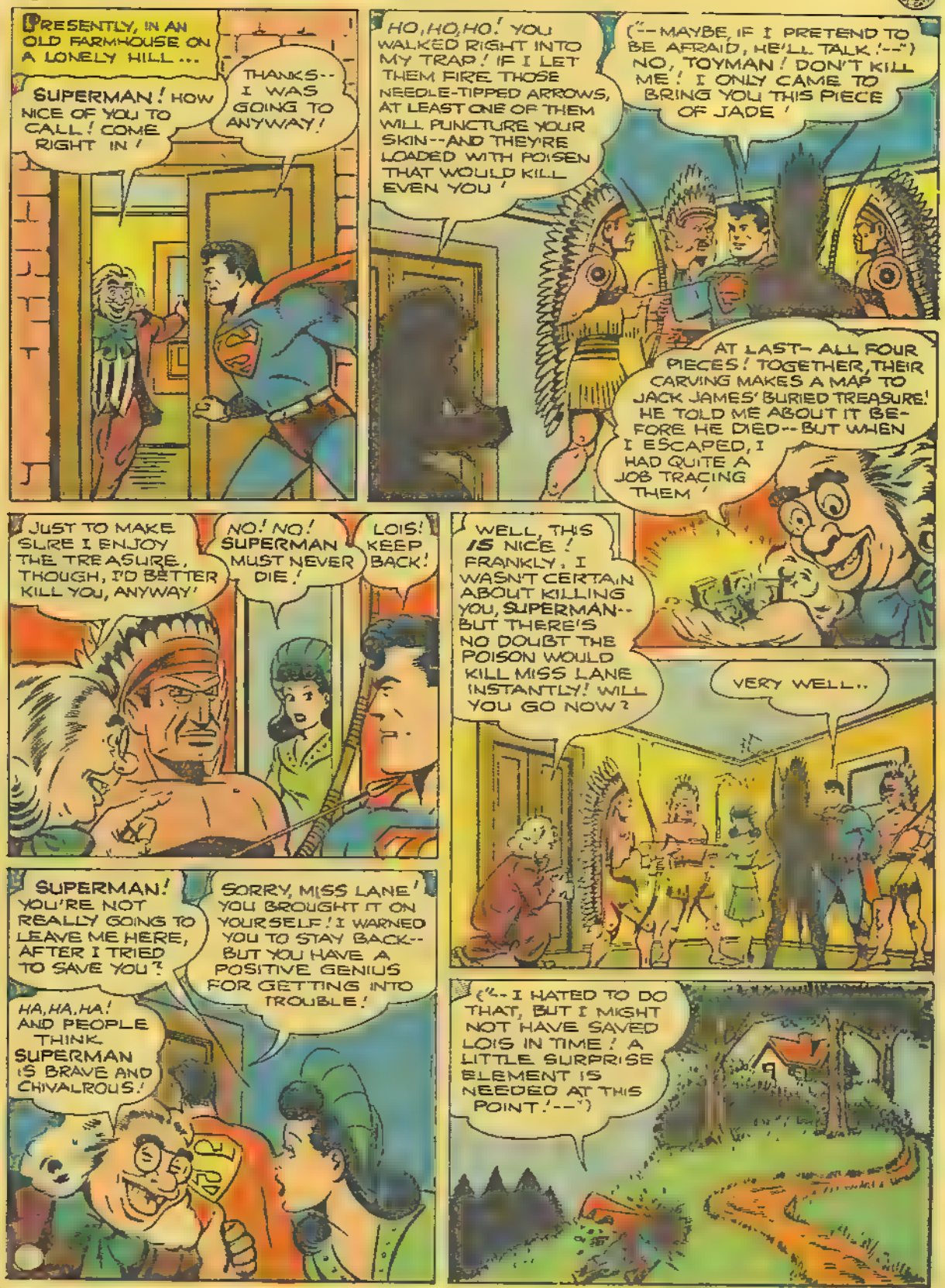
("--WHY, THERE'S SUPERMAN! MAYBE IF I WATCH AND LISTEN, I'LL LEARN SOMETHING!--")

WITHIN THE SHOP...

YOU SAY A MAN NAMED ARCH WESSON SOLD YOU ALL FOUR PIECES OF JADE? AND A FEW DAYS AGO, A MAN ANSWERING TOYMAN'S DESCRIPTION CAME TO FIND OUT TO WHOM YOU HAD SOLD THEM?

Y-YES, SUPERMAN! I SWEAR I DIDN'T KNOW WESSON WAS A PAL OF THE LATE JACK JAMES, THE NOTORIOUS BANDIT!

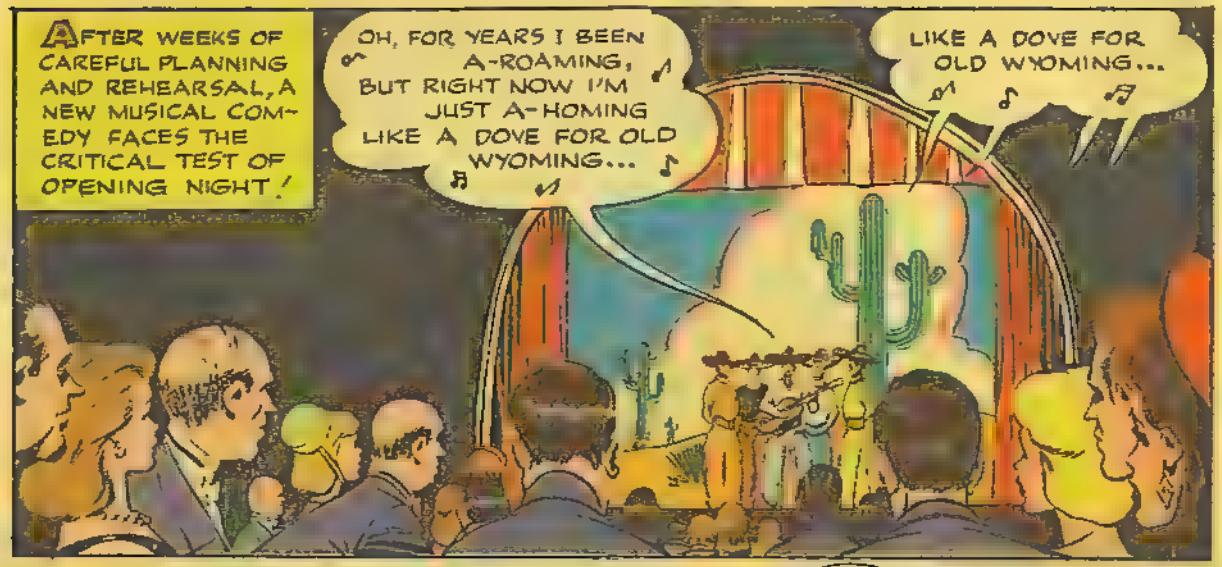
("--NO ONE NEEDS TO TELL ME THE REST! JACK JAMES DIED IN THE SAME PRISON TOYMAN WAS IN--AND WAS SAID TO HAVE LEFT MILLIONS IN HIDDEN LOOT! HIS HIDEOUT WAS A FARM JUST WEST OF TOWN! HERE'S MY CHANCE TO GET ANOTHER SCOOP!--")

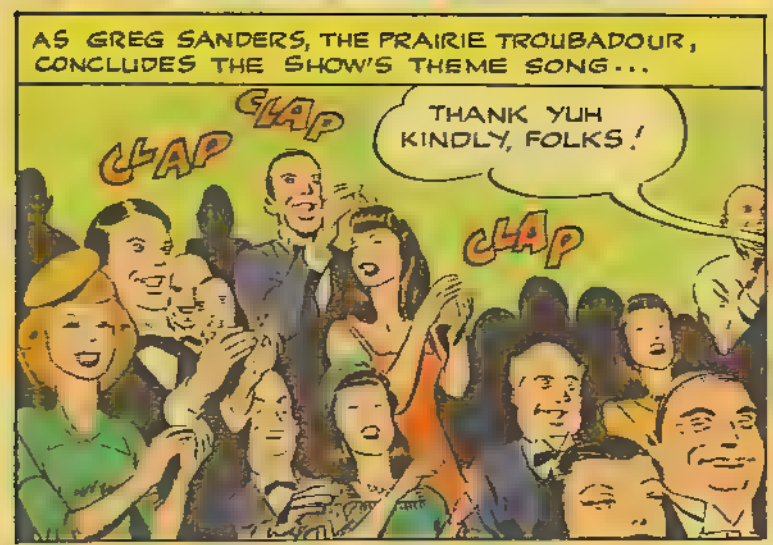

PRESENTLY, IN AN OLD FARMHOUSE ON A LONELY HILL...
SUPERMAN! HOW NICE OF YOU TO CALL! COME RIGHT IN!
THANKS--I WAS GOING TO ANYWAY!
HO,HO,HO! YOU WALKED RIGHT INTO MY TRAP! IF I LET THEM FIRE THOSE NEEDLE-TIPPED ARROWS, AT LEAST ONE OF THEM WILL PUNCTURE YOUR SKIN--AND THEY'RE LOADED WITH POISON THAT WOULD KILL EVEN YOU!
("--MAYBE, IF I PRETEND TO BE AFRAID, HE'LL TALK!--") NO, TOYMAN! DON'T KILL ME! I ONLY CAME TO BRING YOU THIS PIECE OF JADE!
AT LAST--ALL FOUR PIECES! TOGETHER, THEIR CARVING MAKES A MAP TO JACK JAMES' BURIED TREASURE! HE TOLD ME ABOUT IT BEFORE HE DIED--BUT WHEN I ESCAPED, I HAD QUITE A JOB TRACING THEM!
JUST TO MAKE SURE I ENJOY THE TREASURE, THOUGH, I'D BETTER KILL YOU, ANYWAY!
NO! NO! SUPERMAN MUST NEVER DIE!
LOIS! KEEP BACK!
WELL, THIS IS NICE! FRANKLY, I WASN'T CERTAIN ABOUT KILLING YOU, SUPERMAN--BUT THERE'S NO DOUBT THE POISON WOULD KILL MISS LANE INSTANTLY! WILL YOU GO NOW?
VERY WELL..
SUPERMAN! YOU'RE NOT REALLY GOING TO LEAVE ME HERE, AFTER I TRIED TO SAVE YOU?
SORRY, MISS LANE! YOU BROUGHT IT ON YOURSELF! I WARNED YOU TO STAY BACK--BUT YOU HAVE A POSITIVE GENIUS FOR GETTING INTO TROUBLE!
HA,HA,HA! AND PEOPLE THINK SUPERMAN IS BRAVE AND CHIVALROUS!
("--I HATED TO DO THAT, BUT I MIGHT NOT HAVE SAVED LOIS IN TIME! A LITTLE SURPRISE ELEMENT IS NEEDED AT THIS POINT!--")

DON'T CRY, MISS LANE! I'LL BRING YOU A CHAIR TO SIT ON, AND SOME FOOD-- AND PERHAPS I'LL EVEN LET YOU GO WHEN I FIND THE TREASURE!
H-HE LEFT ME! (SOB) N-NOTHING MATTERS NOW!
SUDDENLY...
PARDON ME! I FORGOT SOME-THING!
SUPERMAN! YOU DID COME BACK!
I WARNED YOU! NOW BOTH OF YOU SHALL DIE!
SEE, TOYMAN? I KNEW THAT THOSE LITTLE ARROWS WOULDN'T STAND A CHANCE AGAINST MY SKIN!
LET'S DISCUSS IT ANOTHER TIME-- SHALL WE?
ANY TIME YOU SAY-- AS LONG AS IT'S IN STATE PRISON!
OH, DEAR! AND I DID WANT SO MUCH TO HAVE THE FUN OF SPENDING ALL THAT MONEY!
LATER, AT THE OFFICE
AREN'T YOU GOING TO GIVE THE LITTLE GIRL A B.G HAND FOR DOING IT AGAIN, CLARK?
PLEASE DON'T RUB IT IN! THE BOSS HAS AL-READY WARNED ME TO WAKE UP-- OR HUNT FOR A NEW JOB!
DAILY PLANET
SUPERMAN CAPTURES TOYMAN, RETURNS MILLIONS IN LOOT TO VICTIMS OF JAMES GANG!
BY LOIS LANE
I'M REALLY SORRY! I HATE TO MAKE YOU LOOK LIKE A FOOL ALL THE TIME-- BUT IF YOU ARE ONE, CAN I HELP IT?
NO, LOIS... I GUESS NOT EVEN SUPERMAN COULD DO ANYTHING IN A CASE LIKE THAT!
The End
12

ADVENTURES OF "T.N." AND CHUCK!
T.N. AND CHUCK ARE ON A CAMPING TRIP IN THE WOODS.
I'M GLAD WE'RE CAMPING OUT. IT'S GREAT TO GET AWAY FROM THE CITY

VIGILANTE
THE SPIRIT OF THE OLD WEST COMES TO TOWN WITH A TONIC OF SONGS AND LAUGHTER FOR THE JADED EAST! AND WHEN AN UNEXPECTED TOUCH OF COLT HUMOR STRIKES A SOUR NOTE, IT TAKES THAT ROLLICKING, PUNCHING PLAINSMAN, THE VIGILANTE, TO CLEAR THE SKIES OF SIX-SHOOTER GRIMNESS THAT CASTS A PALL OVER . . .
"OLD WYOMING!"
WE ARE DA BOYS OF DA CHORUS -- TRA-LA-LA--
MORT MORTON JR


AFTER WEEKS OF CAREFUL PLANNING AND REHEARSAL, A NEW MUSICAL COMEDY FACES THE CRITICAL TEST OF OPENING NIGHT!
OH, FOR YEARS I BEEN A-ROAMING, BUT RIGHT NOW I'M JUST A-HOMING LIKE A DOVE FOR OLD WYOMING...
LIKE A DOVE FOR OLD WYOMING...


AS GREG SANDERS, THE PRAIRIE TROUBADOUR, CONCLUDES THE SHOW'S THEME SONG...
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
THANK YUH KINDLY, FOLKS!

WOW, THEY SURE LIKED YOU, GREG!
SEEMS LIKE THEY DID, STUFF! HOPE THE REST OF THE SHOW GOES OVER AS WELL...THE CAST HAS WORKED HARD FOR THIS OPENIN'!

DON'T WORRY, GREG... MESQUITE MIKE'S COMEDY IS ALWAYS SURE-FIRE, AND THE OTHER ACTS ARE JUST AS GOOD!
HOWDY, FOLKS! MIND IF I SMOKE A SEEGAR?
GO RIGHT AHEAD!

RIGHT OUT OF HIS POCKET!
THANKS!
HEY!

QUICK WIT, TUNEFUL SONGS, CLEVER DANCES... OLD WYOMING HAS EVERYTHING! AND THEN FOR THE GRAND FINALE...
THE WHOLE STAGE IS TURNING! HOW THRILLING!
BY JOVE, I'D LIKE TO SEE THE WHOLE THING OVER AGAIN, ESPECIALLY THAT SHOOTING SCENE IN THE SECOND ACT!
LATER...
LOOKS LIKE YOU GOT A LONG-TIME JOB, GREG!
SURE DOES, STUFF! EVEN THE CRITICS DIDN'T LOOK AS SOUR AS USUAL!
BUT THE FOLLOWING EVENING, DURING THE SECOND ACT...
BANG!
BANG!
YIPPEE!
THOSE BLANKS SURE MAKE A LOT OF NOISE!
TOO MUCH NOISE, I'M THINKIN'!
THOSE SHOTS COMIN' AREN'T BLANKS! THEY'RE REAL BULLETS! THIS SOUNDS LIKE A CALL FOR THE VIGILANTE!

SECONDS LATER, IN THE LOBBY
KIYOODLIN' COYOTES... THEY'RE ROBBING THE BOX OFFICE!
THIS FIST AIN'T LOADED WITH BLANKS, VARMINT!
THE VIGILANTE! PLUG 'IM BOYS!
YIII OOO
THAT'LL BE A PLEASURE—
BACK OF YOU, VIG!
GOTTA MOVE FAST!
HEY!
GOOD THING MESQUITE MIKE DIDN'T SEE THIS... HE'D STEAL IT FOR HIS ACT!
AND NOW, SIDEWINDERS, WHO'S GONNA PLUG WHO?
EEEHHH OO!
NOT SO FAST, RAT... DON'T YOU WANT TO SEE THE SHOW?
OWWW OO!

BUT SUDDENLY, JUSTICE IS OBSTRUCTED!
WHAT A TIME FOR THE INTERMISSION! THE CROWD IS CUTTING ME OFF FROM THE CROOKS!
ONE MOMENT... WHOM DO YOU THINK YOU'RE PUSHING, YOUNG MAN?
I'M JUST TRYIN' TO GET THROUGH TO... AW, SHUCKS, FORGET IT!
THEY GOT AWAY IN THE CROWD!
YES, BUT MAYBE WE CAN FIND THEM AGAIN! COME ON!
DASHING BACKSTAGE, THE VIGILANTE FACES A WORRIED MANAGER...
IT MIGHT EVEN BE THAT SOME OF THE COWBOYS IN THIS ACT ARE CROOKS, PARDNER...
HEY, MR. OAKES... COME HERE AND SEE WHAT I FOUND IN ONE OF THE DRESSING ROOMS!
THESE FELLOWS DIDN'T EVEN GO ON DURING THE SECOND ACT!
HUH..? BUT I COUNTED THEM AT THE BEGINNING... THERE WASN'T ANYBODY MISSING THEN!
HMM! THESE SIDEWINDERS COULD HAVE SNEAKED IN HERE, TIED UP YOUR ACTORS, AND TAKEN THEIR PLACES... UNTIL IT WAS TIME TO STAGE THEIR PRIVATE ACT!
5

AND THEN AGAIN, MEBBE IT DIDN'T HAPPEN THATAWAY AFTER ALL...
HUH..? ARE YOU HINTING THAT MAYBE THOSE ACTORS AREN'T INNOCENT, VIG?
WELL, AFTER THE ROBBERY, ONE OF THEM MIGHT HAVE TIED THE OTHERS UP, AND THEN DONE THE SAME THING TO HIMSELF. THERE'S NO WAY OF TELLIN' RIGHT NOW...
BUT, THOUGH THE VIGILANTE AND STUFF ARE UNCERTAIN OF THE GUILTY PARTIES...
LOOK AT THAT! THE NEWSPAPERS SEEM PRETTY SURE WHO TRIED TO ROB THE SHOW LAST NIGHT!
YES... AND THAT STORY WON'T DO THE SHOW'S BUSINESS ANY GOOD!
SCOOP! MEMBERS OF CAST SHOOT CREW TRY TO ROB OLD WYOMING
IF MORE PUBLICITY LIKE THIS KEEPS COMIN' OUT, PEOPLE'LL BE AFRAID TO SEE THE SHOW FOR FEAR OF BEIN' SHOT! WE MIGHT EVEN BE FORCED TO CLOSE!
WHAT'LL WE DO?
THERE'S ONLY ONE ANSWER TO THAT, STUFF! WE'VE GOT TO GET THE REAL CROOKS TO STRIKE AGAIN... AND THIS TIME, MAKE SURE THEY DON'T GET AWAY!
SO, PRESENTLY, ANOTHER AND MORE SENSATIONAL HEADLINE BLAZENS FORTH...
THAT OUGHTTA LURE THE SIDEWINDERS OUTTA THEIR HOLES!
SCOOP
"OLD WYOMING" MANAGER DEFIES BANDITS! TO KEEP $10,000 CASH IN BOX OFFICE! VIGILANTE ON GUARD!
THAT NIGHT, AS THE SHOW GOES ON ONCE MORE...
OH, I HAD A GAL NAMED MARY HOLT, PURTY AS A PINTO, AND HUSKY AS A COLT!
6

SUDDENLY...
HER LIPS WERE RED, AND HER EYES WERE BLUE—
THERE'S SHOOTING GOING ON,
BANG!
SOMETHING'S FUNNY! I PLANTED STUFF OUT IN FRONT TO KEEP WATCH ' IF HE SAW ANYTHING SUSPICIOUS, HE WAS TO PRESS A BUTTON FLASHING A RED LIGHT NEAR THE EXIT... BUT NO LIGHT'S GONE ON '
I'D FIND SOME EXCUSE TO BREAK OFF THE ACT AND SLIP INTO FIGHTING TOGS IF I HAD TO... BUT I'M NOT DOING IT FOR ANY FALSE ALARM! I'LL JUST CALM THESE PEOPLE DOWN, AND START SINGIN' AGAIN.!
MEANWHILE, FROM A SAFE VANTAGE POINT, THE ALERT STUFF WATCHES WARILY '
HUH...? SOMEBODY TOSSED A FIRECRACKER.! I DON'T KNOW WHAT THE IDEA IS, BUT NOBODY'S HEADING FOR THE BOX OFFICE YET, SO NO NEED TO WARN THE VIG '
THE MINUTE THOSE THUGS SHOW UP, THOUGH, I'LL LET HIM KNOW FAST ENOUGH!
THE INCIDENT PASSES... AND THEN...
BOYS, THAT STUFF ABOUT THE VIGILANTE'S GUARDIN' THE PLACE MUST BE BALONEY ' WE JUST TESTED IT, AND HE DIDN'T SHOW UP '
OKAY! NOW THAT WE DON'T HAVE TO BE AFRAID OF THE VIGILANTE, WE'LL DO THE WAY WE PLANNED.!

AND AS THE SHOW GOES ON . . .
NO SHOOTIN' THIS TIME, BOYS! THEY WON'T KNOW WHAT'S GOIN' ON UNTIL IT'S ALL OVER!
THEY'VE SHOWED UP! HOPE VIG IS KEEPING HIS EYE ON THAT LIGHT!
MESQUITE MIKE
SECONDS LATER...
HOWDY, RATTLERS! I HOPED YOU'D PLAY A RETURN ENGAGEMENT!
IT'S HIM!
I PUNCHED PLENTY OF CATTLE IN MY TIME... BUT I ENJOY PUNCHIN' COYOTES MORE!
OOOFF!
ONLY TROUBLE IS... THE CATTLE PUT UP A BETTER FIGHT!
I'LL END THIS STRIFE WITH MY KNIFE!
DROP THAT STEEL, DIAMOND-BACK! I DON'T USE MY GUNS RECKLESS-LIKE... BUT I CAN USE THEM!
AND I CAN USE MY SPURS, TOO!
KEEP YOUR BACK TURNED JUST ONE MORE SECOND, VIGILANTE... DAT'S ALL I WANT!
OH, OH!
MESQUITE MIKE
8

TAKE IT EASY, RAT... I'VE GOT YOU COVERED.
HUH..?
AT THIS MOMENT...
SCRAM FAST, BOYS... IF YOU CAN!
IT'S LOCKED!
SURE IS, VARMINT! I DIN'T WANT ANY INTERFERENCE FROM THE AUDIENCE THIS TIME! BETTER GIVE UP!
ORCHESTRA
NOT YET! THE ENTRANCE TO THE BALCONY'S OPEN...THIS WAY, BOYS!
THE PURSUIT LEADS AROUND THE SIDES OF THE THEATRE, THEN BACKSTAGE! AND AS THE PUNCHING PLAINSMAN TEMPORARILY LOSES SIGHT OF HIS QUARRY...
THEY MUST BE HIDIN' BEHIND SOME OF THIS SCENERY...
UNEXPECTEDLY, AS A BACKDROP IS LIFTED...
WE GOT HIM, BOYS!
HERE'S OUR CHANCE...WE BETTER PLUG HIM NOW!
NOT NOW... IN ABOUT TWO MINUTES! THAT'S WHEN ALL THE SHOOTIN' STARTS IN THE AUDIENCE... NOBODY'LL HEAR US!
SCENE 2 ACT 1

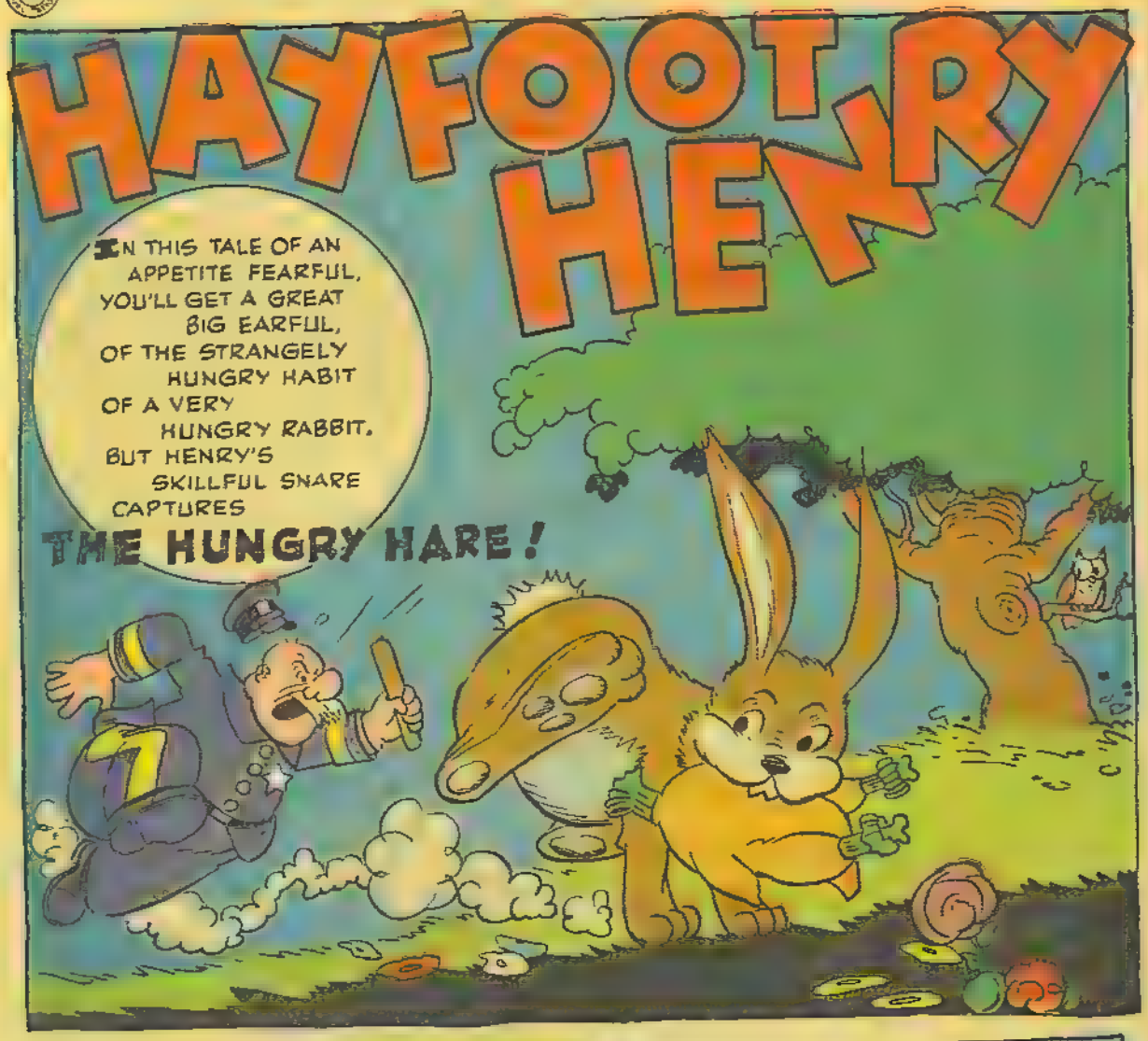
BUT, AS THE VIGILANTE FACES DEATH, STUFF, FOLLOWING AS FAST AS HIS SHORTER LEGS WILL TAKE HIM, ARRIVES ON THE SCENE...
THEY'RE GOING TO KILL HIM... WHAT'LL I DO?
WHAT WILL STUFF DO? AND WHILE HE THINKS FRANTICALLY...
ALL THE BETTER! GET SET, VIGILANTE! THE MINUTE THOSE OTHER GUNS GO OFF...
HE'S COMIN' TO, BOSS...
BUT WITH THE THUGS POISED TO FIRE...
HEY...THE STAGE IS TURNIN'... PEOPLE ARE WATCHIN' US!
SOMEBODY MUSTA PUSHED THE BUTTON!
SOUNDS LIKE STUFF'S DOING...
THE CROOKS ARE CAUGHT OFF BALANCE BY THE SUDDEN MOTION, AND VIGILANTE DOES THE REST!
OWWW!
MINUTES LATER...
I OWE YOU A LOT, VIGILANTE! BY CAPTURING THESE THUGS YOU'VE PROVED THAT THEY'RE NOT MEMBERS OF MY CAST! YOU'VE SAVED THE SHOW FROM PROBABLE BANKRUPTCY!
DON'T MENTION IT, PARDNER! THIS SHOW SURE IS WORTH SAVIN'!
NOW TO GET ON WITH THE SHOW AGAIN! SANDERS... SANDERS! I NEVER SAW A FELLOW LIKE THAT PRAIRIE TROUBADOUR FOR MAKING UNEXPECTED DISAPPEARANCES!
LUCKY FOR YOU, PARDNER... LUCKY FOR YOU!
The End

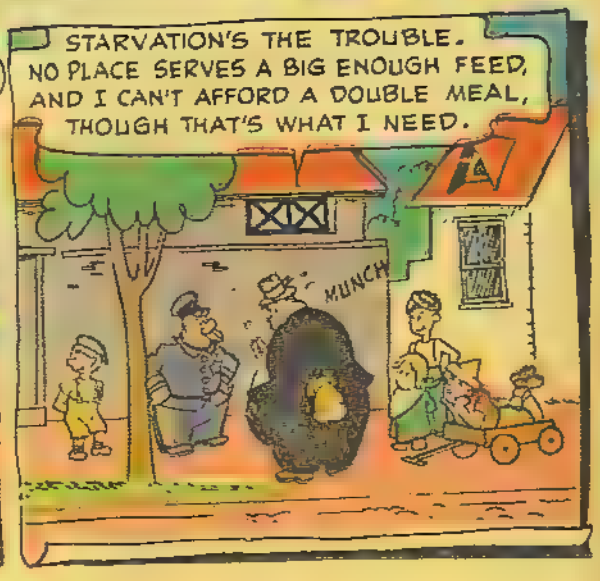
GET PRE-FLIGHT TRAINING KIT . . . . .
WIN FREE FLYING LESSONS!

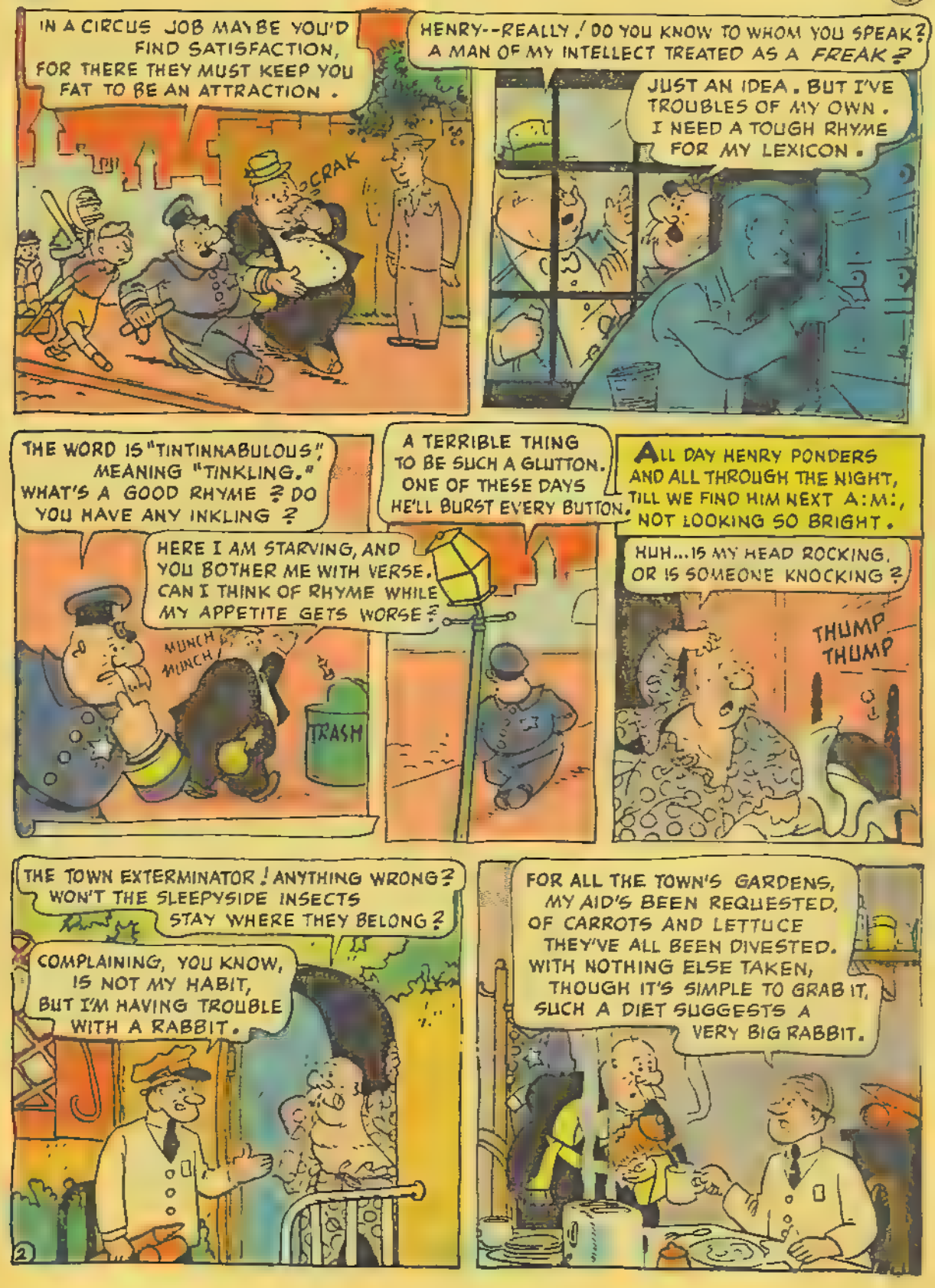
FLY YOUR OWN PLANE!

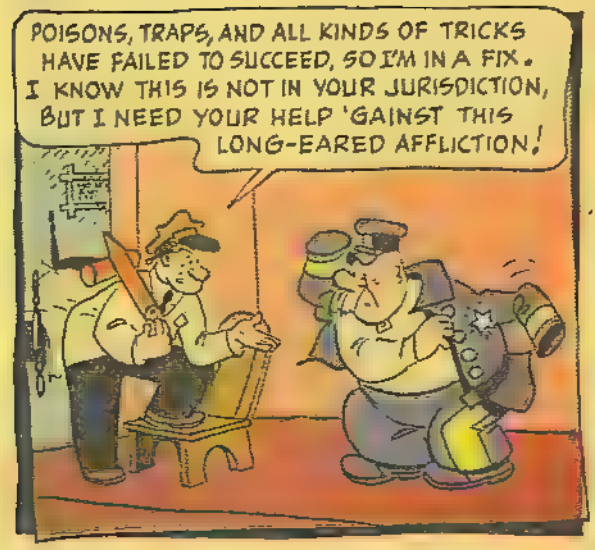
The Most Exciting Offer Ever Made America's Future Pilots

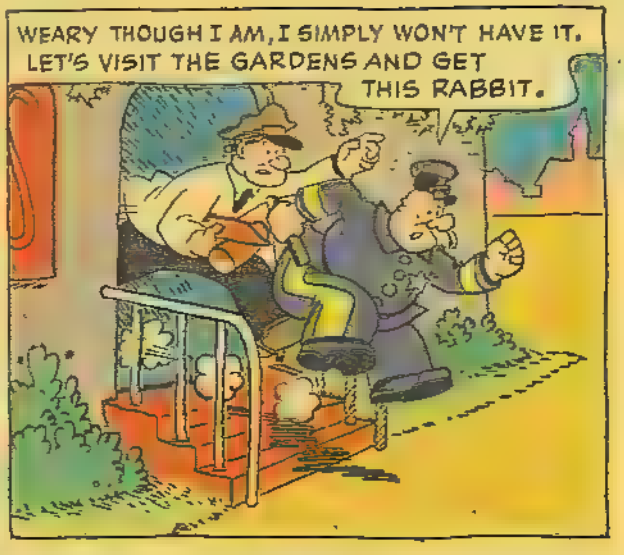
HAYFOOT HENRY


IN THIS TALE OF AN APPETITE FEARFUL, YOU'LL GET A GREAT BIG EARFUL, OF THE STRANGELY HUNGRY HABIT OF A VERY HUNGRY RABBIT. BUT HENRY'S SKILLFUL SNARE CAPTURES THE HUNGRY HARE!

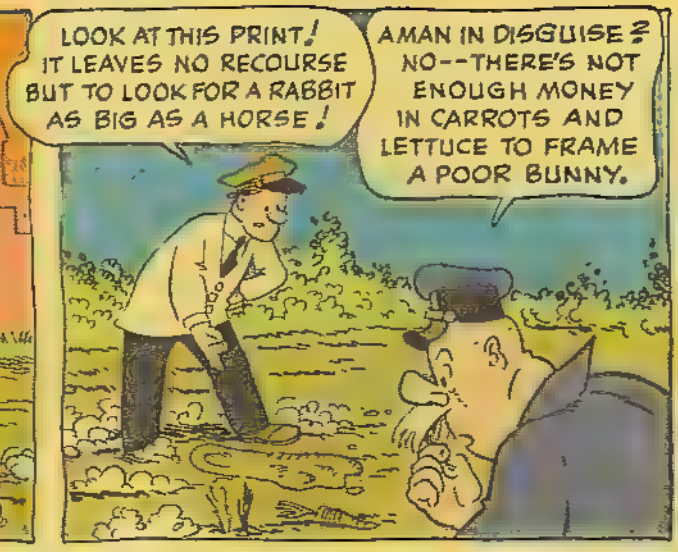



IN A CIRCUS JOB MAYBE YOU'D FIND SATISFACTION, FOR THERE THEY MUST KEEP YOU FAT TO BE AN ATTRACTION.
CRAK
HENRY--REALLY! DO YOU KNOW TO WHOM YOU SPEAK? A MAN OF MY INTELLECT TREATED AS A FREAK?
JUST AN IDEA. BUT I'VE TROUBLES OF MY OWN. I NEED A TOUGH RHYME FOR MY LEXICON.
THE WORD IS "TINTINNABULOUS", MEANING "TINKLING." WHAT'S A GOOD RHYME? DO YOU HAVE ANY INKLING?
A TERRIBLE THING TO BE SUCH A GLUTTON. ONE OF THESE DAYS HE'LL BURST EVERY BUTTON.
ALL DAY HENRY PONDERS AND ALL THROUGH THE NIGHT, TILL WE FIND HIM NEXT A:M:, NOT LOOKING SO BRIGHT.
HERE I AM STARVING, AND YOU BOTHER ME WITH VERSE. CAN I THINK OF RHYME WHILE MY APPETITE GETS WORSE?
MUNCH MUNCH
TRASH
HUH...IS MY HEAD ROCKING, OR IS SOMEONE KNOCKING?
THUMP THUMP
THE TOWN EXTERMINATOR! ANYTHING WRONG? WON'T THE SLEEPYSIDE INSECTS STAY WHERE THEY BELONG?
COMPLAINING, YOU KNOW, IS NOT MY HABIT, BUT I'M HAVING TROUBLE WITH A RABBIT.
FOR ALL THE TOWN'S GARDENS, MY AID'S BEEN REQUESTED, OF CARROTS AND LETTUCE THEY'VE ALL BEEN DIVESTED. WITH NOTHING ELSE TAKEN, THOUGH IT'S SIMPLE TO GRAB IT, SUCH A DIET SUGGESTS A VERY BIG RABBIT.
2


POISONS, TRAPS, AND ALL KINDS OF TRICKS HAVE FAILED TO SUCCEED, SO I'M IN A FIX. I KNOW THIS IS NOT IN YOUR JURISDICTION, BUT I NEED YOUR HELP 'GAINST THIS LONG-EARED AFFLICTION!


WEARY THOUGH I AM, I SIMPLY WON'T HAVE IT. LET'S VISIT THE GARDENS AND GET THIS RABBIT.

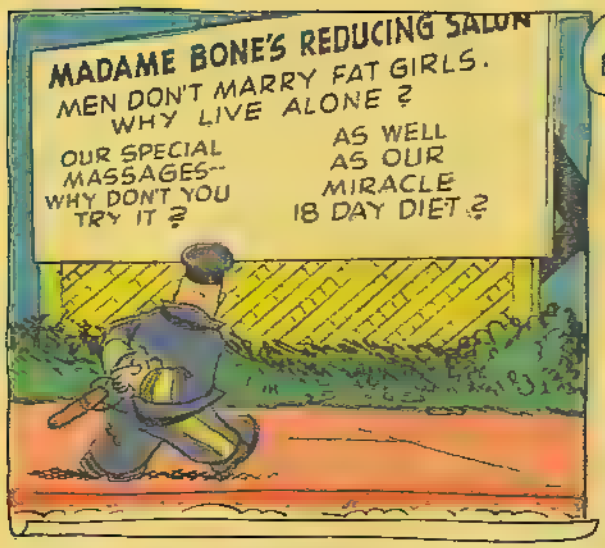
NO ORDINARY RABBIT COULD EAT QUITE SO MUCH, THERE MUST HAVE BEEN SEVERAL. LET'S LOOK FOR THE HUTCH.


LOOK AT THIS PRINT! IT LEAVES NO RECOURSE BUT TO LOOK FOR A RABBIT AS BIG AS A HORSE!
A MAN IN DISGUISE? NO--THERE'S NOT ENOUGH MONEY IN CARROTS AND LETTUCE TO FRAME A POOR BUNNY.

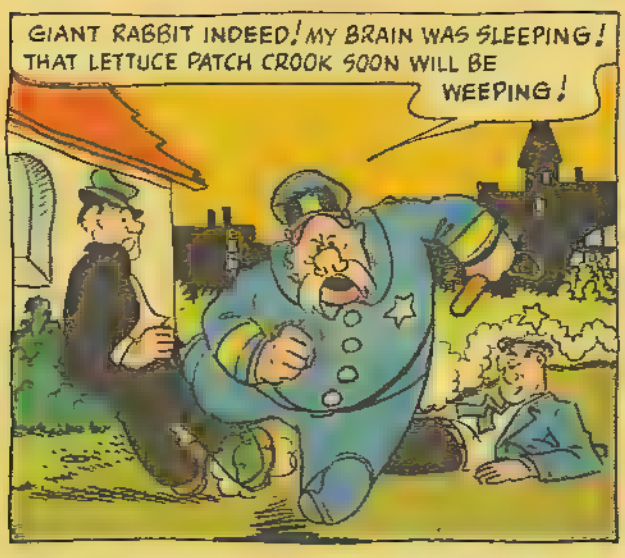
BESIDES, WOULD A MAN STOP AT CARROTS AND LETTUCE? A RABBIT IT WAS, THOUGH THE TRUTH MAY UPSET US.
3

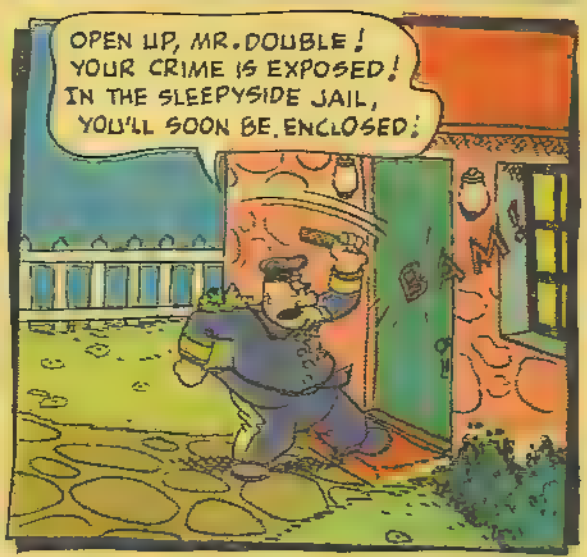
BUT CATCHING THIS RABBIT WON'T BE A CINCH. YOU'LL SURE HAVE TO HUSTLE TO MAKE THE PINCH.
I CAN ONLY TAKE CARE OF ONE THING AT A TIME. TO CLEAR MY MIND, I MUST FIRST FIND MY RHYME!

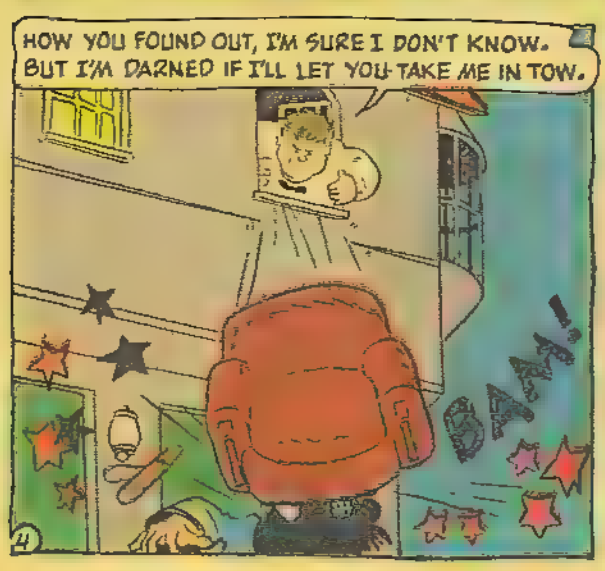
TINTINNABULOUS -- THE RHYME MUST BE THERE.. WHY AM I BOTHERED WITH AN OVERSIZED HARE?


MADAME BONE'S REDUCING SALON
MEN DON'T MARRY FAT GIRLS. WHY LIVE ALONE ?
OUR SPECIAL MASSAGES-- WHY DON'T YOU TRY IT ?
AS WELL AS OUR MIRACLE 18 DAY DIET ?

EIGHTEEN DAY DIET! WHY--I TRIED IT ONCE! EUREKA--I'VE GOT IT! I'VE BEEN A DUNCE!


GIANT RABBIT INDEED! MY BRAIN WAS SLEEPING! THAT LETTUCE PATCH CROOK SOON WILL BE WEEPING!


OPEN UP, MR. DOUBLE! YOUR CRIME IS EXPOSED! IN THE SLEEPYSIDE JAIL, YOU'LL SOON BE ENCLOSED!
BAM!


HOW YOU FOUND OUT, I'M SURE I DON'T KNOW. BUT I'M DARNED IF I'LL LET YOU TAKE ME IN TOW.
BAM!
4

FOR THE BUST ON THE HEAD, I REALLY AM GRIEVING. BUT, HENRY-I HARDLY CAN LIVE WITHOUT THIEVING.

HENRY--WHAT HAPPENED? DO YOU KNOW WHERE HE WENT? MR. DOUBLE SKIPPED OUT WITHOUT PAYING HIS RENT!
HE WON'T GET FAR, SO PLEASE DON'T WORRY. I'LL CATCH HIM WITH EASE. THERE'S REALLY NO HURRY.
IN A MINUTE OR TWO HENRY'S PREDICTION COMES TRUE ...
JUST AS I THOUGHT! YOU HAD TO STOP FOR A HASTY BITE AT THE FIRST FOOD SHOP!
PLEASE, HENRY--DON'T INTERRUPT MY MEAL! DON'T BREAK MY HEART! UNDERSTAND HOW I FEEL!
SO-YOU HOPED TO REDUCE SO YOU'D HAVE LESS TO FEED. BUT A GLUTTON LIKE YOU CAN'T FILL YOUR NEED--
CHOMP CLICK!
--WITHOUT STEALING LETTUCE AND CARROTS GALORE. UNTIL, IN LESS THAN A DAY, THERE WERE NO MORE. AND THAT PHONEY FOOTPRINT! AREN'T YOU ASHAMED OF TRYING TO GET SOME POOR BUNNY FRAMED?
TRY OUR HOT ROLLS TERRIFIC!
SPEC STUFFED TURKEY
FEEDING YOU IN JAIL-- GOSH--WHAT AN EXPENSE. I HATE TO ARREST YOU, BUT YOU'VE NO DEFENSE.
BUT JAILING ME REALLY DOESN'T MAKE SENSE..
CRAK
WHY BLAME ME FOR AN APPETITE SO FABULOUS?
EUREKA -- THAT'S IT! MY RHYME FOR TINTINNABULOUS!
NOW THAT YOU'VE HELPED ME FIND MY RHYME, YOUR STEALING WASN'T REALLY A TERRIBLE CRIME. I'LL TALK TO THE JUDGE. WITH PROPER REPENTANCE YOU MAY GET OFF WITH A SUSPENDED SENTENCE!
THE END
5

SECRETS FOR SALE

by Blake Bodeen

SATURDAY was a weekend. My wife was downstairs in the den, my daughter was in her room, and I was in the kitchen. I was sitting at the table, reading the Sunday paper. Suddenly, I heard the front door open and close.

"Hello, Mr. Hamilton," said a voice. "I'm Mr. Smith from Smith, Smith, Smith, Smith, Smith, Smith, Smith and Smith."

"Hello, Mr. Smith," I said. "Why are you here?"

"I'm here to buy your secrets," said Mr. Smith, looking around the room. "Where are they?"

"I don't have any secrets," I said.

"Nonsense," said Mr. Smith. "Everyone has secrets. Where are they?"

"I don't have any secrets," I repeated. "I'm a boring person. I have a boring job, I live in a boring house, I have a boring family, I drive a boring car, I have boring hobbies, I have boring friends, I have a boring dog, I have a boring cat, I have a boring goldfish, I have a boring parakeet, I have a boring canary, I have a boring hamster, I have a boring gerbil, I have a boring rabbit, I have a boring guinea pig, I have a boring ferret, I have a boring iguana, I have a boring snake, I have a boring lizard, I have a boring turtle, I have a boring tortoise, I have a boring frog, I have a boring toad, I have a boring newt, I have a boring salamander, I have a boring axolotl, I have a boring tarantula, I have a boring scorpion, I have a boring centipede, I have a boring millipede, I have a boring earthworm, I have a boring leech, I have a boring slug, I have a boring snail, I have a boring jellyfish, I have a boring starfish, I have a boring sea urchin, I have a boring sea cucumber, I have a boring sea anemone, I have a boring coral, I have a boring sponge, I have a boring plankton, I have a boring algae, I have a boring seaweed, I have a boring kelp, I have a boring moss, I have a boring lichen, I have a boring fungus, I have a boring mold, I have a boring mildew, I have a boring yeast, I have a boring bacteria, I have a boring virus, I have a boring prion, I have a boring viroid, I have a boring satellite, I have a boring virusoid, I have a boring nanovirus, I have a boring plasmid, I have a boring transposon, I have a boring retrotransposon, I have a boring retrovirus, I have a boring lentivirus, I have a boring oncovirus, I have a boring hepadnavirus, I have a boring herpesvirus, I have a boring poxvirus, I have a boring iridovirus, I have a boring ascovirus, I have a boring baculovirus, I have a boring nudivirus, I have a boring hytrosavirus, I have a boring polydnavirus, I have a boring ichnovirus, I have a boring bracovirus, I have a boring entomopoxvirus, I have a boring alphaentomopoxvirus, I have a boring betaentomopoxvirus, I have a boring gammaentomopoxvirus, I have a boring deltaentomopoxvirus, I have a boring epsilonentomopoxvirus, I have a boring zetaentomopoxvirus, I have a boring etaentomopoxvirus, I have a boring thetaentomopoxvirus, I have a boring iotaentomopoxvirus, I have a boring kappaentomopoxvirus, I have a boring lambdaentomopoxvirus, I have a boring muentomopoxvirus, I have a boring nuentomopoxvirus, I have a boring xientomopoxvirus, I have a boring omicronentomopoxvirus, I have a boring pientomopoxvirus, I have a boring rhoentomopoxvirus, I have a boring sigmaentomopoxvirus, I have a boring tauentomopoxvirus, I have a boring upsilonentomopoxvirus, I have a boring phientomopoxvirus, I have a boring chientomopoxvirus, I have a boring psientomopoxvirus, I have a boring omegaentomopoxvirus, I have a boring unclassifiedentomopoxvirus, I have a boring chordopoxvirus, I have a boring avipoxvirus, I have a boring capripoxvirus, I have a boring leporipoxvirus, I have a boring suipoxvirus, I have a boring molluscipoxvirus, I have a boring yatapoxvirus, I have a boring unclassifiedchordopoxvirus, I have a boring asfarvirus, I have a boring asfivirus, I have a boring mimivirus, I have a boring marseillevirus, I have a boring pandoravirus, I have a boring pithovirus, I have a boring megavirus, I have a boring cafeteriavirus, I have a boring klosneuvirus, I have a boring tupanvirus, I have a boring faustovirus, I have a boring kaumoebavirus, I have a boring orpheovirus, I have a boring medusavirus, I have a boring pacmanv

It is a sad, old, familiar thought: the loneliness of the artist.

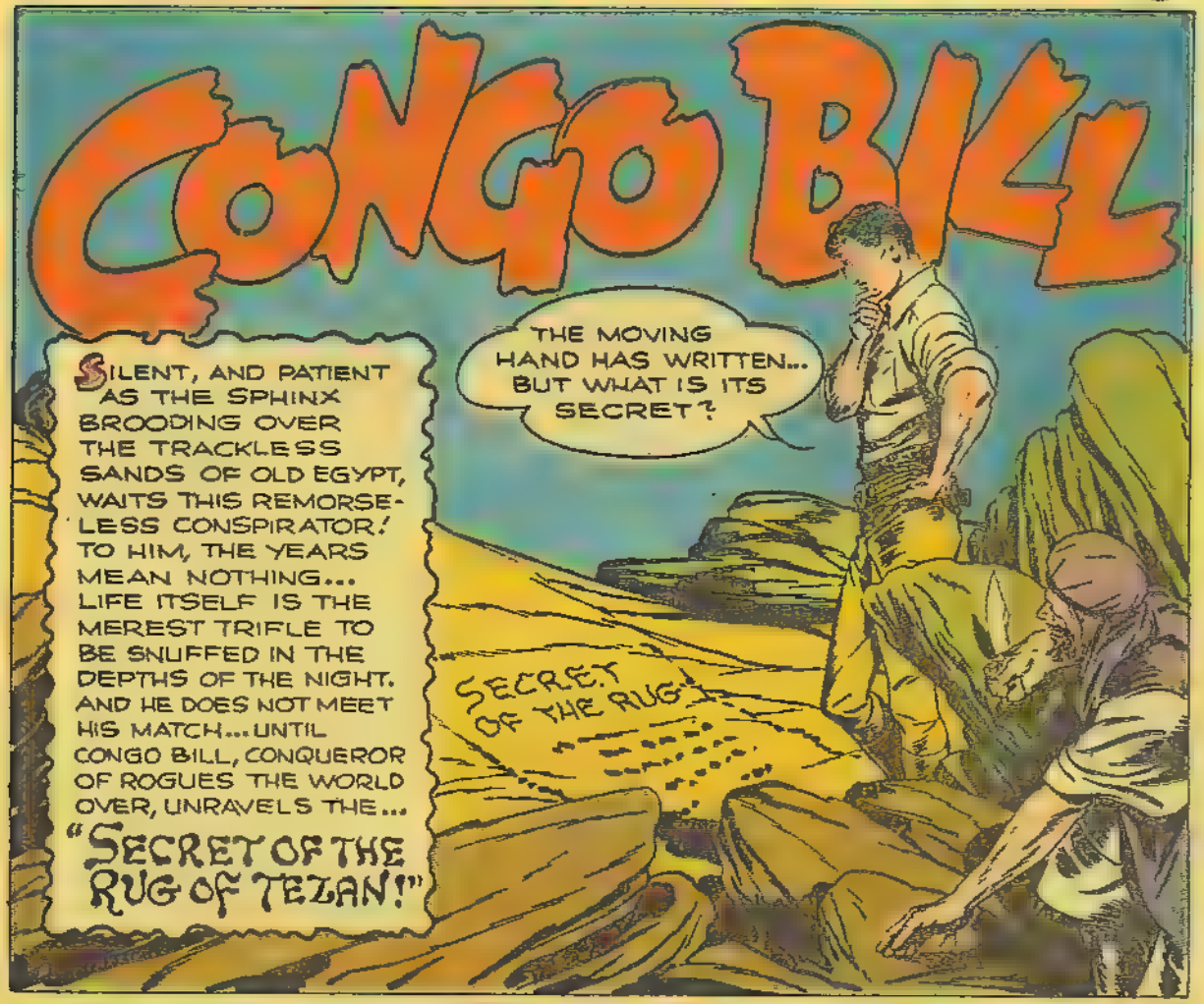
Yet it is a complex fact. All artists are not lonely. Some are gregarious, and some are lonely only at certain times. Some are lonely only in their work. Some are lonely only in their lives. Some are lonely in both.

There is no question of "fault" in the matter. Loneliness is not a moral condition. It is a state of being. Nor is it a matter of choice. Some artists choose to be lonely, and some choose not to be lonely, but in the end it is a matter of the deepest kind of compulsion. Some artists are lonely because they are artists, and some are artists because they are lonely.

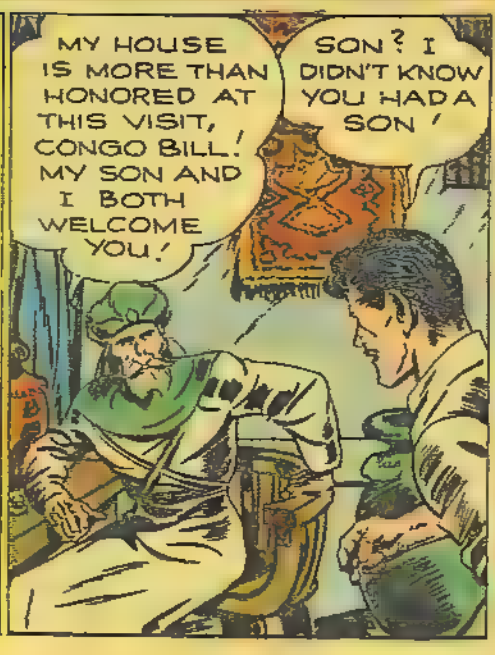
The artist is an observer. He is a man who stands outside the world and looks at it. He is a man who is always trying to find out what is going on. He is a man who is always trying to find out what it means. He is a man who is always trying to find out what it is all about.

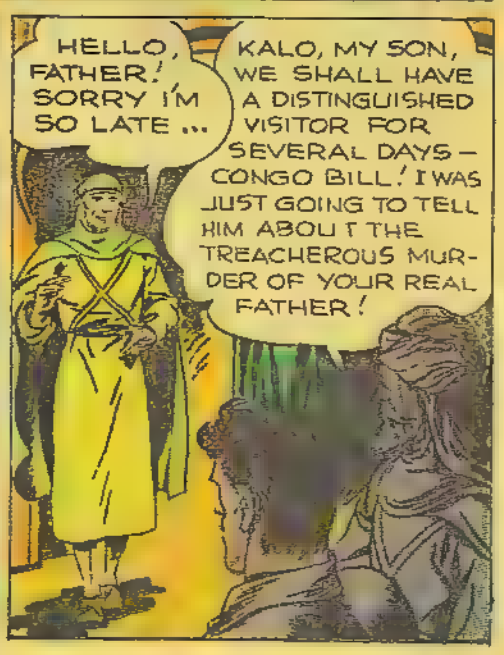
He is not an observer in the sense that he is a scientist. He is not trying to find out what is going on in order to control it. He is not trying to find out what it means in order to explain it. He is not trying to find out what it is all about in order to solve it.

He is an observer in the sense that he is a man who is always trying to find out what is going on, what it means, what it is all about, because he is a man who is always trying to find out what is going on, what it means, what it is all about, because he is a man who is always trying to find out what is going on, what it means, what it is all about, because


CONGO BILL
SILENT, AND PATIENT AS THE SPHINX BROODING OVER THE TRACKLESS SANDS OF OLD EGYPT, WAITS THIS REMORSELESS CONSPIRATOR! TO HIM, THE YEARS MEAN NOTHING... LIFE ITSELF IS THE MEREST TRIFLE TO BE SNUFFED IN THE DEPTHS OF THE NIGHT. AND HE DOES NOT MEET HIS MATCH... UNTIL CONGO BILL, CONQUEROR OF ROGUES THE WORLD OVER, UNRAVELS THE...
"SECRET OF THE RUG OF TEZAN!"
THE MOVING HAND HAS WRITTEN... BUT WHAT IS ITS SECRET?
SECRET OF THE RUG!

A FEVERED SUN SLIDES HEAVILY TO REST BEHIND THE BURNT HILLS OF THE ANCIENT RED SEA PORT WHERE WE FIND CONGO BILL AT THE HOME OF HIS OLD FRIEND, ALI HASSAN...

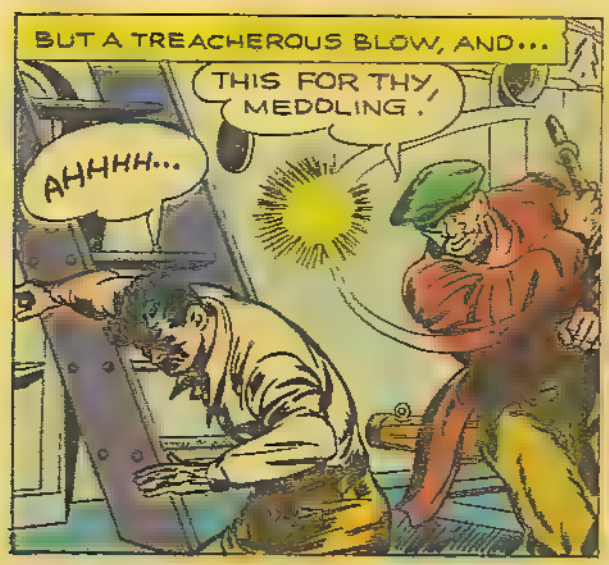

MY HOUSE IS MORE THAN HONORED AT THIS VISIT, CONGO BILL! MY SON AND I BOTH WELCOME YOU!
SON? I DIDN'T KNOW YOU HAD A SON!

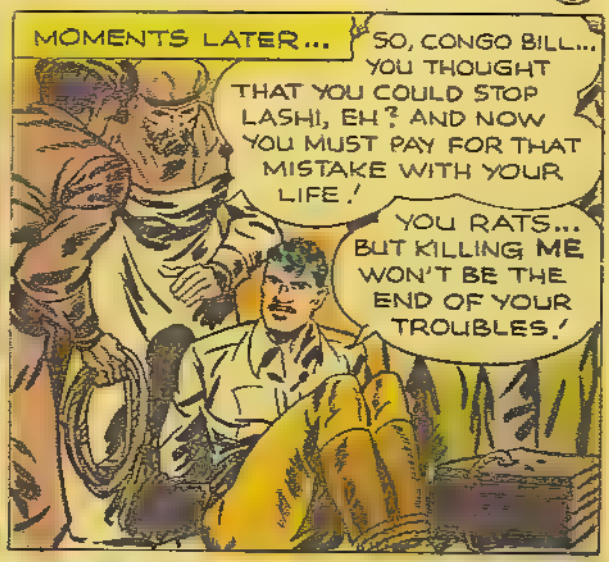

HELLO, FATHER! SORRY I'M SO LATE...
KALO, MY SON, WE SHALL HAVE A DISTINGUISHED VISITOR FOR SEVERAL DAYS — CONGO BILL! I WAS JUST GOING TO TELL HIM ABOUT THE TREACHEROUS MURDER OF YOUR REAL FATHER!

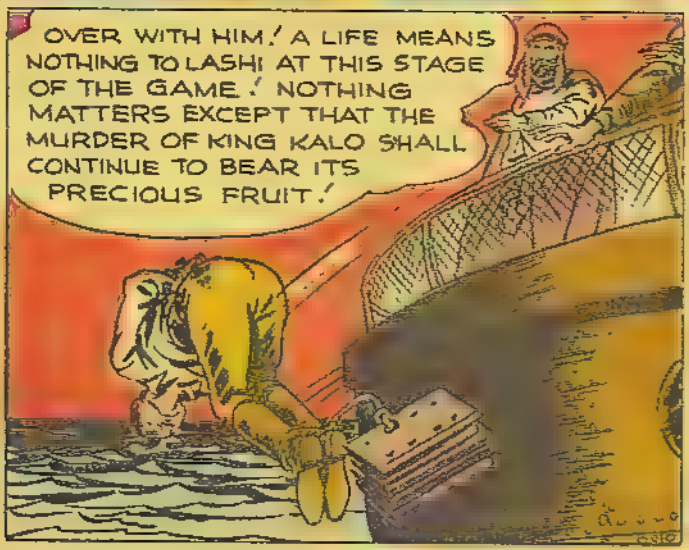
WHOEVER THE COWARD WAS, SOMEDAY HE SHALL BE REPAID... I AM SURE OF IT!
YOU SEE, BILL, I CAME UPON KALO'S FATHER ONE NIGHT BY THE WELL OF AZAR. HE WAS BADLY WOUNDED BY AN ASSASSIN'S KNIFE...
"NEARBY WAS A KNEELING CAMEL, AND ON ITS BACK..."
FATE HAS WILLED IT... I AM DYING! BUT MY SON... SAVE HIM AND GUARD WELL THE RUG OF TEZAN!
YES... HERE IS THE CHILD AND ALSO THE RUG- SAFE! NOW TO GET THIS UNFORTUNATE TRAVELLER TO A DOCTOR!
"BUT THE DOCTOR WAS NOT MUCH HELP TO THE WOUNDED MAN. BEFORE HE DIED, HOWEVER, HE WROTE A LETTER ADDRESSED TO SOMEONE IN LONDON!"
YOU ARE A GOOD MAN... BEFORE I DIE, PROMISE ME THIS... ON MY SON'S SIXTEENTH BIRTHDAY YOU WILL MAIL THIS LETTER! KEEP MY SON... AND GUARD WELL THE RUG!
BE ASSURED, I SHALL DO AS YOU SAY!
AND BEFORE HE COULD TELL ME ANYTHING MORE, KALO'S FATHER DIED! TWO MONTHS AGO, KALO BECAME SIXTEEN, AND I SENT THE MYSTERIOUS LETTER TO ITS ADDRESS IN ENGLAND!
PERHAPS IT WILL BRING JUSTICE... AND TELL ME WHO I REALLY AM!
WHAT A STRANGE STORY! HMM... A YOUNG MAN WHOSE ONLY LINK TO THE PAST IS A RUG AND A LETTER! AND THIS LETTER ... WHY HAS THERE BEEN NO REPLY YET?
AT THAT MOMENT...
SOMEONE TO SEE YOU, MASTER!
IT IS I, LASHI, A SELLER OF RARE RUGS WHO COMES TO ALI HASSAN! PERHAPS WHAT I BRING WILL BE PLEASING TO HIS EYS!
AH... ALI HASSAN ALREADY HAS A TREASURE ON HIS WALL! NEVER HAVE I SEEN A RUG LIKE THIS! IT IS FIT FOR PRINCES!
HMM... THAT IS AN EXTRAORDINARY PIECE OF WORK THAT LASHI'S LOOKING AT! I WONDER...
2

UNEXPECTEDLY...
MASTER... COME QUICK! FIRE IN KITCHEN!
WHAT..?
COME ON... MAYBE WE CAN PUT IT OUT!
WHY... THIS IS ONLY A PILE OF RAGS! PLENTY OF SMOKE... BUT NOTHING SERIOUS!
I'M NOT SO SURE OF THAT! WHERE IS THAT DEALER IN RUGS?
WHY... HE'S GONE!
AND SOMETHING ELSE IS GONE, TOO ... THE RUG WHICH WAS ON THIS WALL!
IT'S GONE... THE RUG LEFT ME BY KALO'S FATHER!
WE WERE TRICKED! SOMEONE MUST HAVE STARTED A FIRE TO DISTRACT OUR ATTENTION, WHILE THIS FELLOW LASHI, TOOK THE RUG!
LOOK, A SHIPPING TAG... THE RED TIGER! WHY THAT'S THE NAME OF A FREIGHTER OUT IN THE HARBOR NOW!
STAY HERE, KALO, WITH YOUR FATHER! WE CAN'T TAKE ANY CHANCES... THIS MAY BE ANOTHER TRICK, BUT I MEAN TO HAVE A LOOK AT THIS RED TIGER!
BUT, IF THERE'S DANGER... AND ON MY ACCOUNT...!
WELL, THERE'S THE SHIP! GUESS I'LL HAVE TO SWIM FOR IT IF I WANT TO TAKE THEM BY SURPRISE!

WONDER WHERE THE CREW IS... THINGS SEEM TO BE PRETTY QUIET HERE!
WELL, THAT FIRE DID THE TRICK... HERE IS THE RUG THAT MAKES MY PUPPET SAFE ON THE THRONE FOREVER! WITHOUT IT, KALO WILL NEVER SUSPECT THAT HE'S THE RIGHTFUL KING OF KURDISTAN!
A LETTER IS A SMALL THING, MASTER, BUT ITS DISCOVERY HAS REMOVED ALL YOUR HONORABLE WORRIES!
IT WAS MOST FORTUNATE FOR LASHI THAT THE OLD KING'S FRIEND IN LONDON WAS DEAD! OTHERWISE THAT LETTER WOULD NEVER HAVE BEEN FORWARDED TO OUR MEN IN THE LONDON CONSULATE.
SO THAT'S THE SET-UP! KALO'S FATHER WAS A KING! LASHI MUST HAVE PASSED OFF ANOTHER CHILD AS THE OLD KING'S SON - AND ALL THESE YEARS, HE HAS BEEN THE POWER BEHIND THE THRONE!
SUDDENLY, CONGO BILL'S ELBOW JOSTLES A MARLIN PIN AND...
I'VE GOT TO END THIS CONSPIRACY OR...
HARK! THERE MUST BE SOMEONE OUTSIDE!
BING
SEIZE HIM!
HE SHALL DIE!
NOT WITHOUT A STRUGGLE!
OOF!
OW!


BUT A TREACHEROUS BLOW, AND...
THIS FOR THY MEDDLING!
AHHHH...

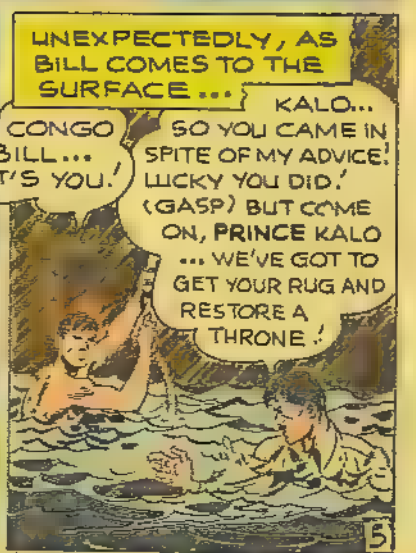

MOMENTS LATER...
SO, CONGO BILL... YOU THOUGHT THAT YOU COULD STOP LASHI, EH? AND NOW YOU MUST PAY FOR THAT MISTAKE WITH YOUR LIFE!
YOU RATS... BUT KILLING ME WON'T BE THE END OF YOUR TROUBLES!


OVER WITH HIM! A LIFE MEANS NOTHING TO LASHI AT THIS STAGE OF THE GAME! NOTHING MATTERS EXCEPT THAT THE MURDER OF KING KALO SHALL CONTINUE TO BEAR ITS PRECIOUS FRUIT!

GOT TO GET LOOSE... THESE WEIGHTS WILL DROWN ME IN ANOTHER MINUTE!

THE SHIP'S KEEL... AND BARNACLES! WHAT LUCK... THEY OUGHT TO BE SHARP ENOUGH TO CUT THESE ROPES!

JUST IN TIME... COULDN'T HAVE LASTED MUCH LONGER!


UNEXPECTEDLY, AS BILL COMES TO THE SURFACE...
CONGO BILL... IT'S YOU!
KALO... SO YOU CAME IN SPITE OF MY ADVICE! LUCKY YOU DID! (GASP) BUT COME ON, PRINCE KALO ... WE'VE GOT TO GET YOUR RUG AND RESTORE A THRONE!

WELL, THAT'S THE END OF CONGO BILL... AND PRINCE KALO WILL GO TO HIS GRAVE WITHOUT EVER KNOWING WHO HE IS!
THE TROUBLE IS... PRINCE KALO HAS JUST FOUND OUT WHO HE IS!
MASTER... THE FIERCE ONE AGAIN... AND THE PRINCE!
OWW!
UGHH!
AND THERE, YOU IMPOSTOR, IS YOUR LASTING CLAIM TO FAME!
FATE WILLS IT... AHHH...
BUT I DON'T QUITE UNDERSTAND... AM I REALLY A PRINCE?
HERE IS THE LETTER, PRINCE KALO, LEFT BY YOUR FATHER! EVERYTHING IS EXPLAINED!
SO, FOR MY OWN SAFETY, MY FATHER WANTED THIS SECRET KEPT UNTIL I BECAME A MAN! AND ALL THESE YEARS ALI HASSAN HAS RAISED ME AS THOUGH I WERE HIS OWN CHILD! I HAVE BEEN VERY FORTUNATE!
I AM SURE YOUR OWN PEOPLE WILL HAVE A WISE RULER FOR THE YEARS TO COME!
6

SUPERMEN OF AMERICA

SUPERMAN'S SECRET MESSAGE

(Code Venus No. 2)

UWTG, YG VQNF AQW DGHQTG: "EQNNGEV YCUVG RCRGT!" CPF PQY VJG PGGF KU ITGCVGT VJCP GXGT. UQ MGGR QP EQNNGEVKPI!

SUPERMAN, JUNE
c o ACTION COMICS,
480 LEXINGTON AVENUE, N. Y. C. 17, N. Y.

Dear Superman:

Please enroll me as a Member of the SUPERMEN of AMERICA. I enclose 10c to cover cost of mailing. It is understood that I am to receive my Membership Certificate, Emblem and Superman Code.

NAME..... AGE.....

STREET ADDRESS .....

CITY AND STATE.....

BOYS AND GIRLS! Get these keen PRIZES!

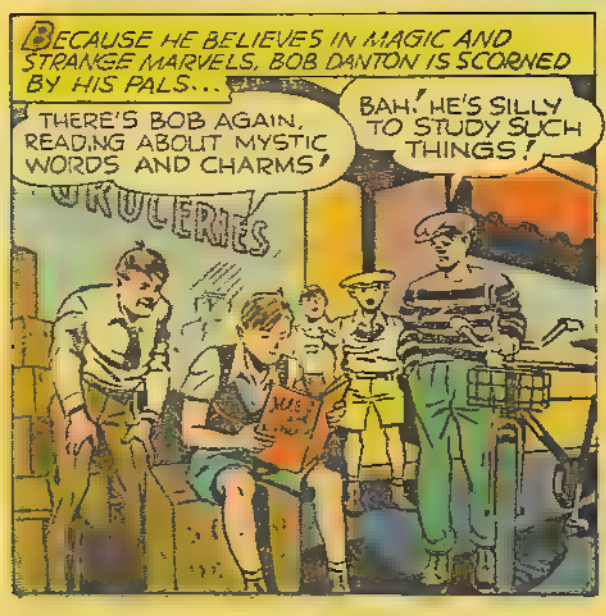
MILITARY INSIGNIA AND WARPLANE BUTTONS!

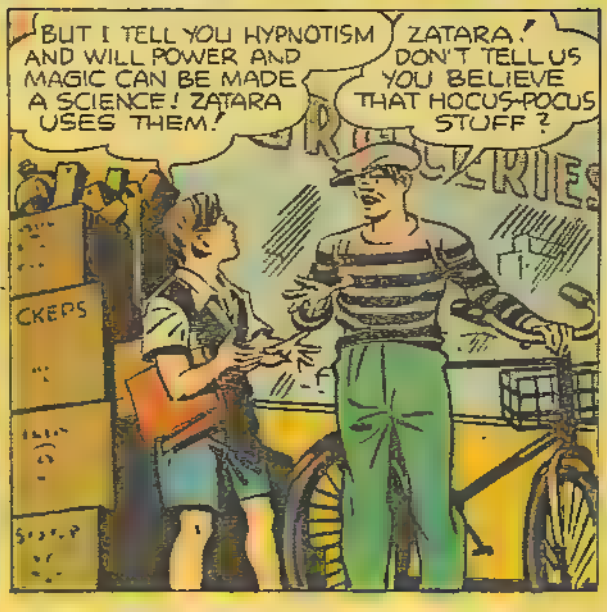
Authentic Army, Navy, Marine insignia . . . Warplane buttons . . . Famous Soldier Generals . . . Air Aces . . . Famous Battleships . . . Flags . . . and many others!

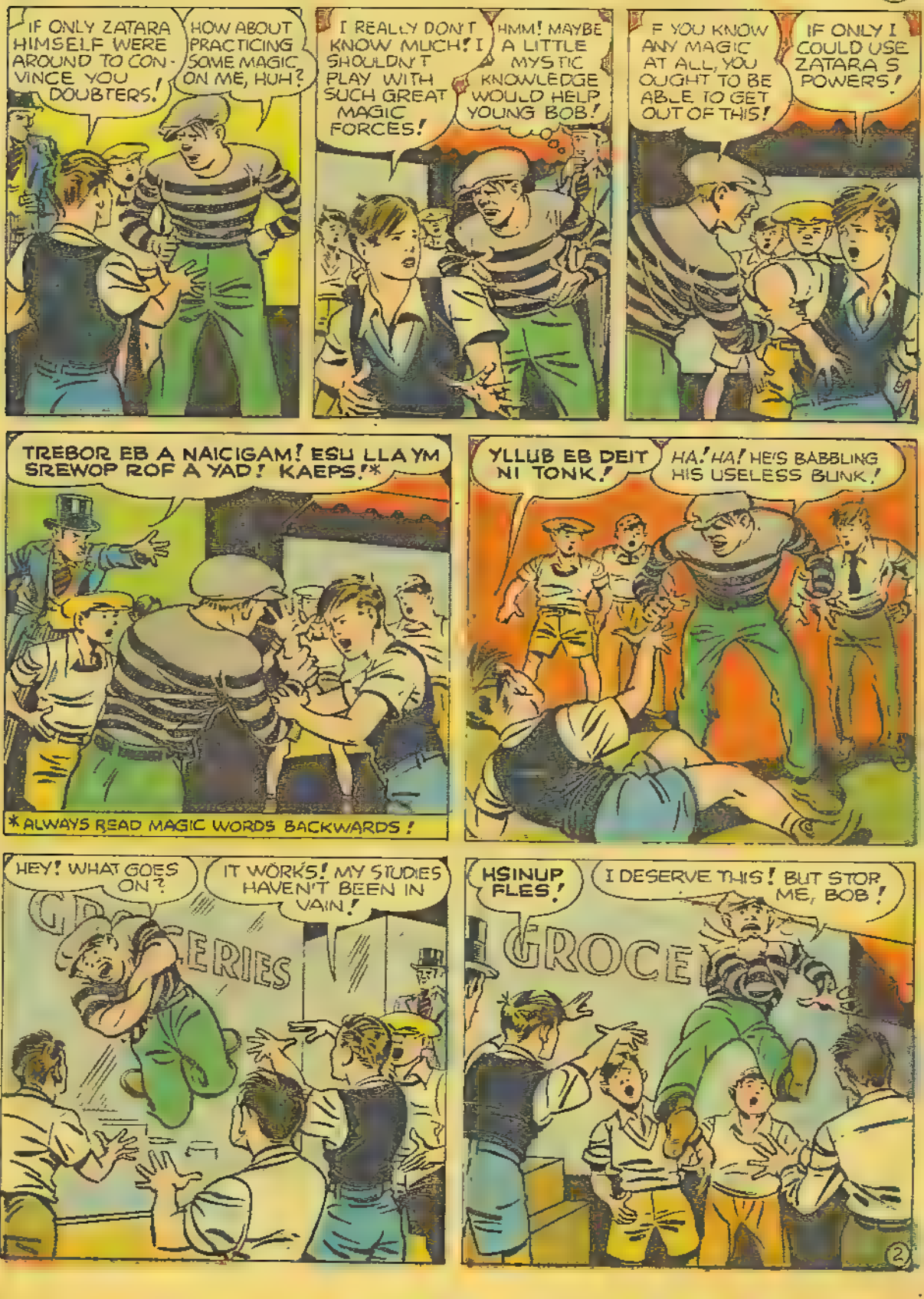
ZATARA
THE MASTER MAGICIAN

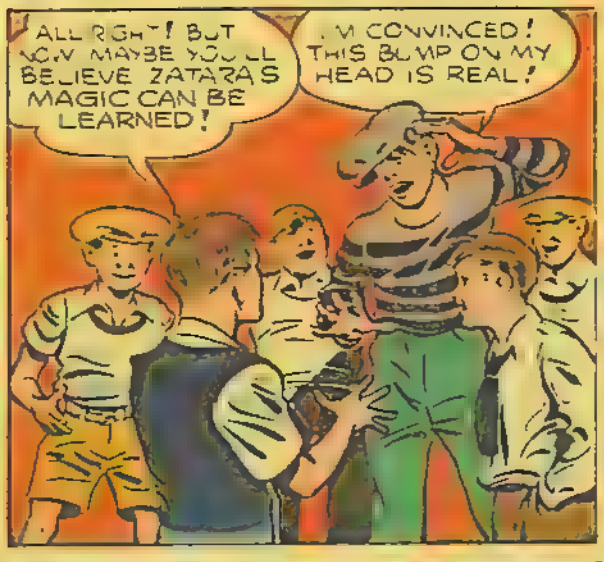
WHAT WOULD YOU DO IF YOU SUDDENLY INHERITED ZATARA'S POWERS? WOULD YOU USE THE MASTER MAGICIAN'S SECRETS WISELY? OR WOULD CRIME AND EVIL COME FROM YOUR SORCERY? WELL, IF YOU'D LIKE TO SEE SOMEONE IN THE SHOES OF THE MAN OF MYSTERY, MEET BOB DANTON AND REALIZE THE DANGERS THAT COME WITH BEING... "THE MAGICIAN'S APPRENTICE!"

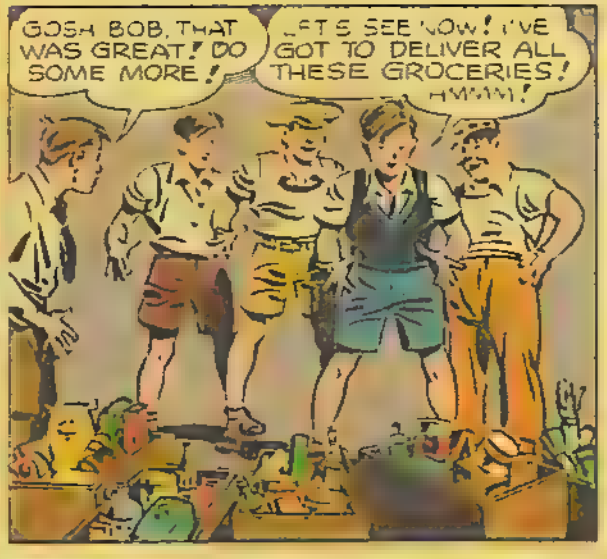
BECAUSE HE BELIEVES IN MAGIC AND STRANGE MARVELS, BOB DANTON IS SCORNED BY HIS PALS...




BUT I TELL YOU HYPNOTISM AND WILL POWER AND MAGIC CAN BE MADE A SCIENCE! ZATARA USES THEM!
ZATARA! DON'T TELL US YOU BELIEVE THAT HOCUS-POCUS STUFF?
KNICK-KNACKS


IF ONLY ZATARA HIMSELF WERE AROUND TO CONVINCE YOU DOUBTERS!
HOW ABOUT PRACTICING SOME MAGIC ON ME, HUH?
I REALLY DON'T KNOW MUCH! I SHOULDN'T PLAY WITH SUCH GREAT MAGIC FORCES!
HMM! MAYBE A LITTLE MYSTIC KNOWLEDGE WOULD HELP YOUNG BOB!
IF YOU KNOW ANY MAGIC AT ALL, YOU OUGHT TO BE ABLE TO GET OUT OF THIS!
IF ONLY I COULD USE ZATARA'S POWERS!
TREBOR EB A NAICIGAM! ESU LLAYM SREWOP ROF A YAD! KAEPS!*
*ALWAYS READ MAGIC WORDS BACKWARDS!
YLLUB EB DEIT NI TONK!
HA! HA! HE'S BABBLING HIS USELESS BUNK!
HEY! WHAT GOES ON?
IT WORKS! MY STUDIES HAVEN'T BEEN IN VAIN!
HSINUP FLES!
I DESERVE THIS! BUT STOP ME, BOB!
2

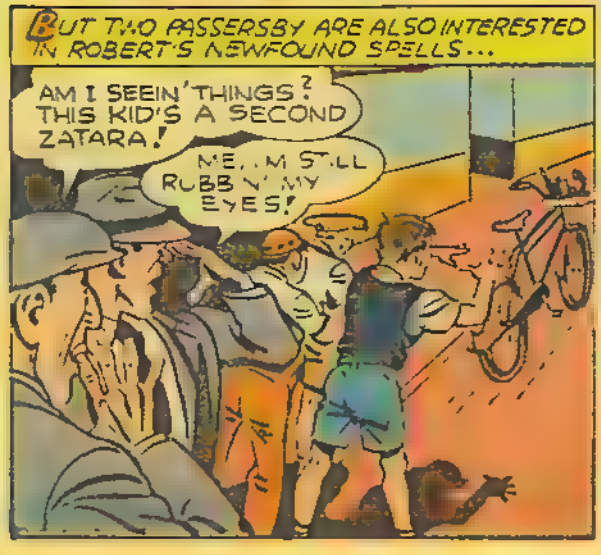

ALL RIGHT! BUT NOW MAYBE YOU'LL BELIEVE ZATARA'S MAGIC CAN BE LEARNED!
I'M CONVINCED! THIS BUMP ON MY HEAD IS REAL!


GOSH BOB, THAT WAS GREAT! DO SOME MORE!
LET'S SEE NOW! I'VE GOT TO DELIVER ALL THESE GROCERIES! HMMM!

SEIRECORG REVILED SEVLES!
THERE'S NO HARM IN THE BOY! HE WON'T MISUSE MY MAGIC! AND I'LL BE BACK SOON!

SURE, BOB! WE'RE ON OUR WAY!
WOW! WHAT A DELIVERY SERVICE!

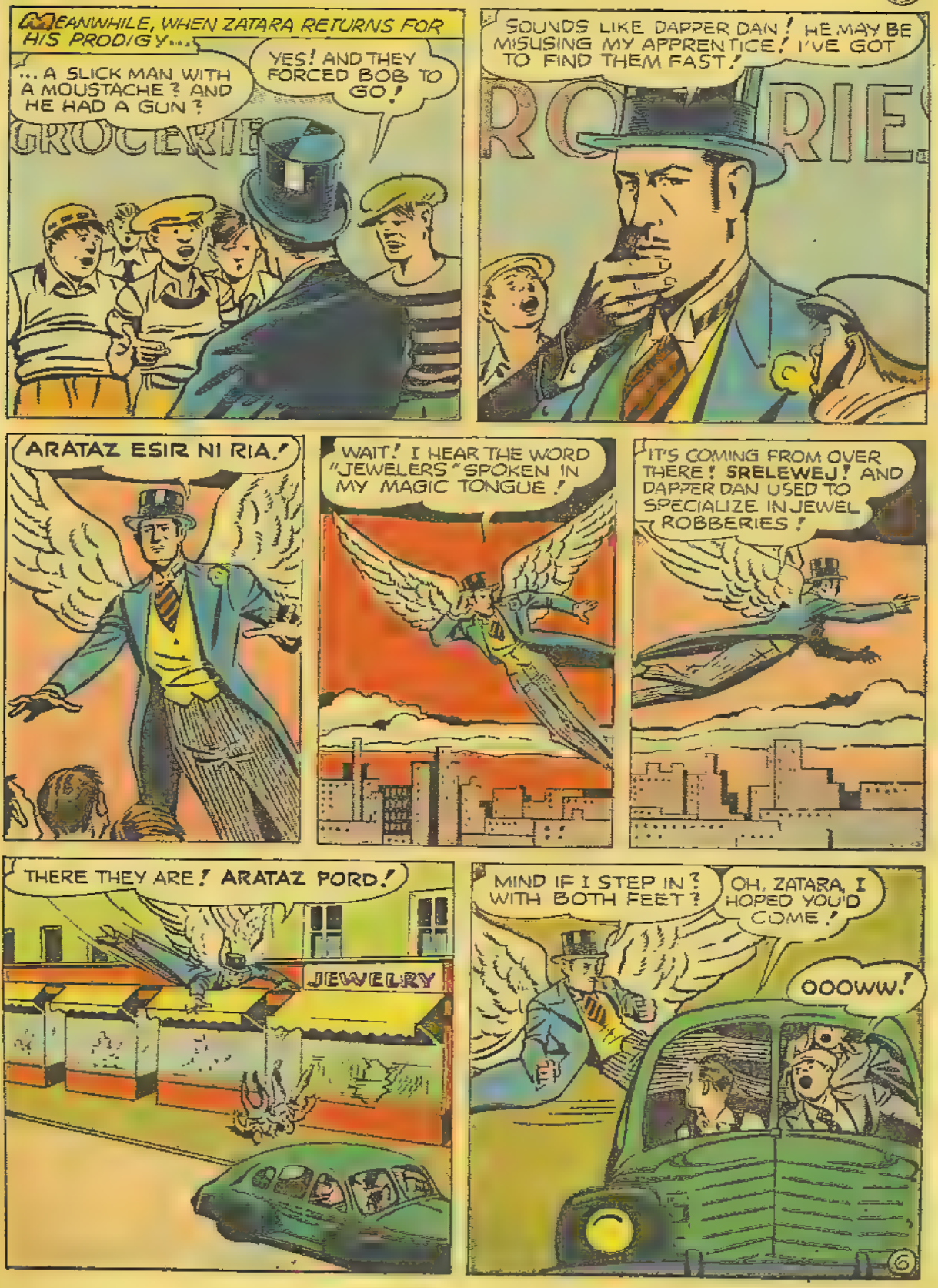
ELCYCIB DEEPS NO DNARRE!
WON'T MRS JORDAN BE SURPRISED TO GET HER ORDER SO FAST!


BUT TWO PASSERSBY ARE ALSO INTERESTED IN ROBERT'S NEWFOUND SPELLS...
AM I SEEIN' THINGS? THIS KID'S A SECOND ZATARA!
ME, I'M STILL RUBBIN' MY EYES!

DAPPER COULD SURE USE THOSE STUNTS ON OUR NEXT JOB!
MAYBE I'LL HAVE START USIN' THAT MAGIC OUR WAY!

WE SAW IT, DAPPER! THINGS OBEY THIS K.O!
YOU GUYS ARE EITHER INSANE, OR THIS IS OUR BIG CHANCE!
COME ON! WE'RE GOING TO 'ADOPT" A YOUNG MAGICIAN! HAW! HAW!
AN' HIS TRICKS ARE GONNA MAKE US RICH!
THERE HE IS, DAPPER!
DRIVE SLOWLY NOW! I'LL HANDLE HIM WITH THIS!
GROCERIES
I HAVE A MESSAGE FROM ZATARA, SON!
FROM THE MAGIC MASTER? IS HE REALLY CALLING FOR ME?
NO, BUT WE ARE! NOW DON'T SAY ANY QUEER WORDS OR I START SHOOTING!
BUT WHA..?
IT'S SIMPLE! I STAND BEHIND YOU AND GIVE ORDERS! AND YOU KEEP YOUR MAGIC EYES AND HANDS AWAY FROM ME AND DO YOUR STUFF AS I SAY!
HERE'S THE PLACE! SAY THE WORDS I TOLD YOU IN THE LANGUAGE OF YOUR MAGIC!
WHAT CAN I DO? HE'LL SHOOT ME IF I...
4

SLEWEJ HSAMS SESAC,' EMOC OT SU!
THIS'LL BE A CINCH IF IT ONLY WORKS!
WE COME!
WE OBEY!
PERFECT!
OUR DIAMONDS!
GET THEM!
NOW GIVE THOSE JEWELERS SOME MAGIC ORDERS!. FAST.'
NO SHOOTING, MEN! OUR LITTLE SORCERER WILL HANDLE THEM!
SRELEWEJ DNATS NO SDAEH! EB SSELPLEH.'
BUT WHY ARE WE DOING THIS?
HE SAYS STRANGE WORDS! JUST LIKE ZATARA!
NICE WORK, BOB! NOW KEEP YOUR BACK TO ME!
HAW, HAW! SO OUR GUNS CAN TAME HIS MAGIC!
THIS IS EASIER THAN MAKING A RABBIT DISAPPEAR, EH, MAGICIAN?
LET'S STOP AT THE BANK NEXT, HUH, BOSS?
5


MEANWHILE, WHEN ZATARA RETURNS FOR HIS PRODIGY...
... A SLICK MAN WITH A MOUSTACHE? AND HE HAD A GUN?
YES! AND THEY FORCED BOB TO GO!
GROCERIE
SOUNDS LIKE DAPPER DAN! HE MAY BE MISUSING MY APPRENTICE! I'VE GOT TO FIND THEM FAST!
ARATAZ ESIR NI RIA!
WAIT! I HEAR THE WORD "JEWELERS" SPOKEN IN MY MAGIC TONGUE!
IT'S COMING FROM OVER THERE! SRELEWEJ! AND DAPPER DAN USED TO SPECIALIZE IN JEWEL ROBBERIES!
THERE THEY ARE! ARATAZ PORD!
JEWELRY
MIND IF I STEP IN? WITH BOTH FEET?
OH, ZATARA, I HOPED YOU'D COME!
OOOWW!
6

AT TIMES I ENJOY SOME EXERC.SE, TOO! LIKE THIS!
BUT HE'S POWERLESS IF WE DON'T WATCH HIS EYES AND HANDS! SNEAK UP BEHIND HIM AND...
DON'T MOVE, ZATARA! DON'T TURN! AND NO MAGIC TRICKS!
THAT GUN MIGHT ENDANGER YOUNG BOB!
HERE'S WHERE YOU GET YOURS! CURTAINS FOR ZATARA!
BUT I GAVE BOB MAGIC POWERS! IF HE'D ONLY...
I'VE GOT TO TRY! SNUG YLF NI RIA!
LET GO OF US!
HEY! OUR GUNS ARE GONE — WE'RE POWERLESS!
SNUG YATS TFOLA!
WE FORGOT THERE WERE TWO MAGICIANS!
AND HERE'S WHAT YOU GET FOR FORGETTING!
7

I MAY BE NEW AT MAGIC, BUT I'VE PLAYED FOOTBALL BEFORE!
OOFF!
NOW LET'S WORK TOGETHER, BOB! SEVEIHT HCNUP SEVLES!
SLEWEJ NRUTER!
OUR FORTUNES ARE SAFE!
AND WE'RE LICKED! HERE COME THE COPS!
LATER...
STOP BABBLING! I DIDN'T SEE ANY DOUBLE MAGIC! BUT YOU'LL SOON SEE A JAIL CELL!
MAYBE I SHOULDN'T HAVE GIVEN BOB SUCH POWERS! HE MIGHT...
BUT THE MODEST BOY SOLVES ALL ZATARA'S WORRIES...
GOSH, ZATARA, I ALMOST THOUGHT I HAD LEARNED YOUR SECRETS! BUT NOW I REALIZE IT WAS YOUR MAGIC ALL THE TIME! YOU MUST HAVE BEEN WITH ME ALL DAY!
HE DOESN'T SUSPECT HOW MUCH HE REALLY DID!
BUT NOW, I'LL STUDY AND READ ABOUT YOU MORE THAN EVER!
MAGIC & HYPNO-TISM
YES, BOB, DO THAT! AND WHO KNOWS, YOU MAY BE A MAGICIAN YOURSELF SOME DAY!
MAGIC & HYPNO.
MAGI & HYPN

FREE to Boys

How to Play Baseball Like a Big-Leaguer!

Here are 10 of baseball's greatest stars telling you how they do it. Each one tells you how to play his position and how to bat and run bases. Each one tells you how to play baseball like a big-leaguer!

EARL WHEELER'S SCRAMBLES

HOW CLINT MAGE STEALS BASES

MARTY MARION'S CURVE BALL

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WILL OTT SPEAKS (on Outfielding)

BOB WILKIE'S BATTING EYE

HOW TOM "BOO" FERRICK HANDLES HIS PITCHERS

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HOW TO PLAY SECOND BASE

HOW TO PLAY SHORTSTOP

HOW TO PLAY THIRD BASE

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HOW TO PLAY CATCHER

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